

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

No. 1937.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1854.

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The present Examiners are eligible, and intend to offer themselves for re-election.
Candidates must announce their names to the Registrar on or before the 30th of March.

By order of the Senate.
R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Trafalgar Square.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—All Works of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, or Engraving, intended for the ensuing Exhibition at the Royal Academy, must be sent in on Monday, the 3rd, or Tuesday the 4th of April next, after which time no work can possibly be received, nor can any works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

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Every possible care will be taken of Works sent for Exhibition; but the Royal Academy will not hold itself accountable in any case of injury or loss; nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any Package.
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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1854.

REVIEWS.

The Legendary and Poetical Remains of John Roby, with a Sketch of His Literary Life and Character. By his Widow. Longman and Co.

WHILE it is impossible not to appreciate the affectionate and unbounded admiration of Mrs. Roby for the talents of her lost husband, it is to be regretted that her estimate of his versatile accomplishments has not been seasoned with better judgment. Even the biographer's own family and friends must think this rather a silly book; and, on turning to the samples given of Mr. Roby's powers, we see no reason for the public being interested in so extravagant a panegyric. Mrs. Roby desires it to be handed down to posterity that her husband was, in the highest sense of the word, —a genius. We incline to regard him more as a kind of wonderment. He was a lively energetic man, clever in his way, always busy with some hobby or other, entertaining and useful; and, in his profession of a banker, he is said to have been an excellent accountant. His occupation, when not engaged in business, was varied in the extreme. He was gifted, says Mrs. Roby, with "great rapidity of perceptions." He wrote song verses and legendary tales at ease in a rocking chair; he composed a tragedy of some merit, and was a bit of an astrologer. He learned botany and conchology, and collected plants and shells. He gave lectures, painted landscapes from nature, played the piano and composed airs to his songs; and "his whistle was singularly rich, and he frequently used it as an accompaniment." Besides all these qualifications he was a ventriloquist, and would excel Bidder, the calculating boy, in his power of calculation. His talents were, moreover, combined, says the charmed widow, "with exterior advantages, graceful movement, resulting from a well-proportioned and finely-moulded form, and elegant manner," that "rendered their possessor the ornament of general society." The public has to regret that the portrait of Mr. Roby, given at the commencement of the book, is only a half-length. His conversational powers, especially on art subjects, are said to have been such that a friend "who was in raptures with Ruskin's 'Modern Painters,' described it as 'like hearing Mr. Roby talk;'" and "it was as easy," says Mrs. Roby, "as it was pleasant, to converse with him, for he seemed to know what others were going to say, by a kind of social electricity." "By no means termed a great reader," continues the biographer, "he usually preferred scientific works to those of general literature. He seemed not to care to follow the imaginations of others; he rather required facts as material for his own to revel in, and create from. Genius must touch the earth, to gather strength for her flight." As specimens of this earth-touching genius, which Mrs. Roby hints at in another part of her sketch, as being "too brilliant for everyday wear," we have, in musical type, 'An Air from a modern Concerto,' with words by J. Roby, and a Quartette, 'the Melody by J. Roby, the Harmonies by V. Novello;' and some 'Lyrics' of the Rosa-Matilda school, from which we quote the following:—

"To ———
"We have met and we have parted,
Meet it were that love should die;
Teach the winds, thou fond false-hearted,
Teach the light wave constancy!"

We have loved as we shall never
Dare on earth to love again!
Hearts thus twined, when they shall sever,
Wear no more love's bootless chain."

"PREFACE TO A LADY'S ALBUM.

"An Album?—'Tis a pretty book I wis,
Bound up in cow-skin—or sometimes in calf,
All tool'd and gilt—where every pert-eyed miss,
Her pretty pouting lips (too ripe by half),
Hangs o'er the snow-white page—then steals a laugh,
Something between a simper and a smile:—
'Law, I can't write!—Ridiculous, to spoil
I have no notion—Will an extract do
From Moore or Byron?' 'No, write something new.'"

Then we have *The Duke of Mantua*, 'a tragedy,' and the following tales: 'Mother Red-Cap, or the Rosicrucians,' 'The Death-Painter, or the Skeleton Bride,' and 'The Crystal Goblet, a tale of the Emperor Severus.'

As an example of the rapidity of Mr. Roby's art-perceptions, the authoress relates an anecdote, which it is only fair we should quote at length:—

"Mr. Roby's skill as a draughtsman was often the admiration of his friends. His landscape drawings from nature, even when they are faithful as portraits, are always pictures. His fondness for investigation, the 'Inquisitive wants to know' of childhood aided him here. He was never satisfied until he had found out the reason why an object takes a known appearance under given circumstances, or why certain processes or touches, transfer certain effects. The writer recollects his mentioning a conversation with the late B. R. Haydon in which the point under discussion was, why when an object is presented against the sky, for example the belly of a horse standing on an eminence, the sky where it approaches the object, though in point of fact as blue there as in any other part, should not be so represented, but in a dim grey, almost neutral tint. (The reader will at once perceive, that the blue sky and black horse would be a tea-tray painting.) The discussion terminated without any satisfactory result, but Mr. Roby could not rest till he had found the true reason in the simple fact, that the eye suiting its focus to the distance of the object to which it is directed, *can not distinctly see, at the same time, objects at different distances.* When the focus was right for the horse, it would only perceive the sky indistinctly, or directed to the sky, the retina would not receive so distinct an image of the horse. Hence if both were represented exactly as they are in themselves, instead of as they are seen in combination, a harsh, unnatural, and therefore false picture would be the result. His conversation on art was rich in such remarks."

Mr. Roby's "rapidity of perceptions" will, however, be best understood by a specimen of his journal:—

"Off to Wetherby.—Resolve to dissipate the mind. Round Hey. Trees, &c., all green, yet how beautifully diversified—cool, warm, half tints—Dr. Johnson, chaise traveller. What is that purple tuft?—Elegant! *Vicia cracca*. . . . What is that like a diminutive fir tree? *Equisetum*, quite a puzzle for a beginner; never mind, learn soon. Clover, I know; but where can it be classed? Honeysuckle too—rushes and all, I suppose, though they would puzzle to find a flower. Clouds, the soul of landscape. What sky most beautiful? Never see a dandelion, but thoughts the most intense that never die.—Where slumbering—where the great reservoir! No flower had the power to revive early associations like this. His first recollections of it, were as growing in a field near his father's house where he played in infancy. 'Yellow flowers among the green wheat: Chertock. Limestone district—How delightful any occupation that keeps the mind from preying on itself. Want of employment similar to hunger.—Gastric juice eats the stomach if no food. . . . What a delicious smell! Butterfly orchis. . . . Foxglove unknown in some of the southern counties, here how luxuriant! Localities of plants,

soil, &c., wants explanation. Poppy, sand, colts-foot, clay. Furze, Linneus. Flowers, all made after one model, never change the generic characters in whatever part of the world; proof, where there none other, of an all-wise designer. . . . Briony, spiral spring. *Orchis morio*. Something about this tribe mysterious. Children in a field playing, enjoyment. With what different eyes do I now look on nature. What should possess me to learn botany, all my life laughing at it. Arrangement, bump of order I suppose. Distant view of the wolds. York Minster—what a host of recollections! . . . *Iris pseudacorus*. Inoculated even the postboy. The operation, the power of mind over mind, what is it? Country churches. People would write much better books if they would take individualities, instead of generalities, to sermons. . . . The numbers three and five, how predominant in botany. *Geum urbanum*—Lutford. Jackasses on a common—patience personified. Why should Jack be a diminutive, a lowering of anything. Jack snipe, *Osmunda regalis*.—Windmills always associate with country quiet; the monotonous turn of the sails. Retreat. Lunatics: mankind all so in one respect or another, but a great difference. Lunatics lose their reasoning powers, and jumble ideas,—take those for real which are only reflection and memory, while those counted sane, with correct ideas, act diametrically opposite to their knowledge. . . . Gravel-field, famous place for plants. Set out. Roman antiquities—a Roman burying-place evidently,—continually digging out broken urns of baked clay, very fragile. . . . Cats without tails, a breed of them here; supposed originally from the Isle of Man. Style of face in different parts. Query, Is it caught? Lower part of the mouth formed by its owner."

Mrs. Roby seems to have been indebted to her husband for having himself written a portion of his biography:—

"When he entered on life, and the duties of his profession, that of a banker, early left him master of many leisure hours, the use of the pencil was a favourite recreation. His artistic perceptions must have been very early developed. He was acquainted with a gentleman a professed virtuoso, and a collector of those fine old drawings and sketches which are the first rough thoughts of the painter, or the playful offspring of his lighter moments. In an unpublished MS. he thus describes in the third person his own first introduction to the beauties of the old masters:—

"A new faculty seemed dawning upon him. He felt their glorious power exalting, refining, the sense by the wondrous potency of art; rendering the forms and hues seen by the imagination visible to the bodily as to the mental eye; and expressing in a tangible shape what had before existed only in the hidden recesses of the soul. He saw for the first time a few of the random sketches, the first bright thoughts of these great men, struck out like sparks from the glowing embers of fancy. The fire and freedom of such rude scratches were pointed out; and he could see with a painter's eye the beauty of a line, the combination and the arrangement, the first shadowy thoughts of the artist emerging from chaos into form. That he possessed even then, to a considerable extent, the artist's power as well as his perception, may be inferred from an anecdote of those days which forms the conclusion of the passage:—

"The professor of *virtu* was expatiating one day, to a group of bystanders, on the merits of some little gem of a drawing he had just purchased. He pointed out the beauties with great gusto, fully impressing his auditory with a sense of the profound knowledge and superiority of his own discrimination. The novice leaned over, and, young as he was, enjoyed the dissertation vastly. In a while he ventured to make a remark; the man of art turned round, and with a look of contempt, intended to extinguish the youthful aspirant, said, 'We don't allow you to be a judge, sir.' Abashed, he shrank back; but the wound rankled, and he determined to have lusty revenge.

He sketched on paper, with great freedom and carelessness, the subject of an old etching, imitating as nearly as possible the style he had previously seen. By the judicious application of tobacco-juice, soot, bistre, ochre, and a little grease, so as to make the picture a perfect pattern of dirt,—a rent, a puncture, a piecing here and there, to show the care with which it had been preserved,—he succeeded in making, as he thought, a tolerable imitation, and with great glee gallanted off the prize to his preceptor. The connoisseur at once pronounced the few bold strokes, every one of which 'told,' to be those of a master; and his pupil had much difficulty in evading his inquiries, as to where he had met with it, and whether there were any more to be had."

"His success," adds Mrs. Roby, "was complete, but neither love of triumph nor gratified vanity tempted him to divulge the secret."

As Mrs. Roby dwells strongly, and, it may be, not disinterestedly, on her husband's high ideal of woman, we are tempted to extract her touching description of his first love:—

"His preference even from childhood of cultivated female society, while his reverence for woman and his standard of her excellence were equally high, also contributed to keep the tone of his mind pure and his life stainless. The dawn of existence thus brightened into the full morning of youth: and if those who now fondly look back upon him with affection and pride, may bless God for such a youth, it is owing, under His blessing, to the love of art, knowledge, and woman's intelligent society."

"Hitherto the little bark had sped with no cross wind, no disturbing current, no shadow on her sail. Love came: still life's glad waters were unruffled—all sunshine and repose. But the storm soon gathered, and life's first romance was destined to close in gloom. It will be readily supposed, that, with the impassioned temperament of genius, he gave himself up without reserve to the power of a first love; and, with the adhesiveness which Phrenology so largely assigned to him, the permanence of his attachment promised to equal its intensity. For a time, 'the course of true love' did 'run smooth'; but at length a coldness he could not account for, but which had for some time pained him, led on his part to remonstrance. It was resented, and the interview ended in mutual displeasure. Riding home—not in the happiest mood—his horse stumbled and threw him. For a few days he lay, unable to travel, in a house near the spot where he had been thrown. Humbler and wiser thoughts prevailed; and the first use he made of his recovered power of moving, was to return and seek another interview. Reconciliation followed, and he left happy and reassured. But, the evening after his arrival at home, a short, cold, and haughty epistle, brought him by private hand, forbade his future visits. Stung to the quick by what appeared heartlessness, if not duplicity, he resolved to forget his idol for ever; and looked around for a worthier object in whose affection he might lose his sense of injury and regret. It was not till his faith was pledged to another that he discovered the undated note was written previously to his last visit, shortly after their angry parting, but owing to his absence from home not sooner delivered. Honour forbade any allusion to this circumstance to the object of the second attachment, to whom he considered himself sacredly engaged, but the blow struck home. A severe illness, during which his life was despaired of, supervened; and, though an elastic nature recovered, it still retained traces of this 'maddening misery.' More than thirty years afterwards he could not refer to these passages of his history without a shudder, and intense, though controlled feeling. Some peculiarities referable to this source remained through life. Henceforth a discord ran through all the melodies of existence, and ever and anon reproduced itself in the creations of imagination."

The melodies of Mr. Roby's existence appear to have been jarred, even from babyhood, for Mrs. Roby relates, with feeling simplicity, that his father was a stern preceptor, that his mother never kissed him but once, and that he was forced to look for sympathy in "little cut-out paper figures of men and women, which he would carry to bed and place under his pillow. As soon as the light was withdrawn he delighted himself in conversations with his paper friends, losing his sense of loneliness in their ideal companionship."

"His father revered the sterner virtues, and sacrificed to them whatever he apprehended might tend to enervate his son's character. In conformity with this theory of training, even the maternal kiss was forbidden. Only once did he remember feeling the soft pressure of his mother's lips on his cheek, though frequently and fervently did he long to feel it again."

Mr. Roby is, however, honourably known to the world of letters by his 'Traditions of Lancashire,' and was much esteemed in the county to which he belonged as an amateur collector and lecturer. The most interesting bits in the volume are two letters, one descriptive of an excursion with the Ettrick Shepherd, the other of a visit to Wordsworth:—

"I went with Hogg the other morning on a 'voyage pittoresque' up the Yarrow. It was a delicious Claude-looking day—the sky filled with a warm hazy brightness. Every cloud stole as softly up the firmament, as if some creature 'of the immaterial air' melting into the blue ether. None of those sudden lights—those breaks through a hard and almost impenetrable pile of clouds—an Apennine or Andes poised in the middle air, dividing the landscape into vast enclosures—masses of shadow, deep, awful, and abrupt—or moving patches, of a wild and unnatural brightness."

"We set out from Selkirk pretty early, intending to reach St. Mary's before noon. We loitered lazily up the stream, imbibing the keen freshness of the morning. The mists were just rolling from the green hills, when, on passing the bridge, we turned to our left, entering upon the beautiful road, leading through the Duke of Buccleuch's grounds, to Altrieve and St. Mary's Loch. The Yarrow and the Ettrick unite about two miles above Selkirk. Following the course of the former, we soon spied the ruins of Newark Castle, the scene of Sir Walter's 'Lay of the Last Minstrel.' It is a massive square tower, now unroofed, surrounded by an outward wall, and defended by round flanking turrets. During the minority of the present Duke, the castle was dilapidated; the wooden beams, and such stones as could be removed, were employed in building a miserable farm-house in its vicinity."

"I felt wishful to obtain a closer inspection of this fine old specimen of border antiquity; more especially on learning that Mungo Park—born at Foulshiels, a small farm within a stone's throw of the castle—had left his autograph somewhere within its walls. We soon procured admittance, and on climbing the ruined staircase, entered a large roofless apartment on the second story, where, sure enough, we found, without much trouble, the name of our enterprising, but unfortunate countryman, written two or three times in a large clerk-like hand with red chalk. Hogg seemed as well pleased as if he had found a 'pos,' and rummaged his galligaskins for a hideous bit of scrawl, that he had several times brought forth from his dark den, during our journey, when anything particularly inspiring had urged its momentary liberation. A poem perhaps, another exquisite 'Kilmeny' or 'Mary Lee' in embryo, undergoing its appointed period of incubation. I made no inquiries, but continued undisturbed in the great business of exploration. In a short time I heard him bundling down the steps, to take a morning's gossip with the keeper. It was not long ere I found myself amply repaid for any sense of deprivation I might have endured, by discovering another flourish with

the identical red chalk, and evidently by the same hand. It was a stanza—four lines of poetry by Mungo Park!—If thou hast any touch of feeling—any mark of kindred—any spark of rarer sympathy—imagine, if thou canst, my delight—the fervour, the intensity of my rapture. They fired indelibly, and almost involuntarily on my memory;—there they now exist, and probably will continue until every faculty, every function, be obliterated."

"The following is a true copy, spelling and all. The orthography of poor Park was not of the purest kind:—

'Within these walls where obscene birds of night
Whistle and shriek alternate round,
Soft music floated once, whilst with delight
The distant shepherd caught the dying sound.'

"I do not think they show marks of quotation. I hope and believe they are original; at least, I am pretty certain they have not before been noticed."

"I soon roused the skulkers: a vigorous hurrah was the first intimation they had of the enemy being so near their camp. Bang went the first door I came to, and there I found my friend and his, cantie over a cup of the best mountain, and deep in the heart of a thrifty controversy about sheep, their ailments and cures. It was 'an awfu downcome;' they stared at each other without perfectly understanding the nature of my announcement. On a repetition, 'Eh, Mr. Bogle, but ye're gone clean blue,' was the rejoinder; 'Ha! ye seen a ghaist!' With some difficulty I made them reluctantly comprehend two very important matters, to wit,—my meaning, and a request that they would give me their sweet company awhile. But how they did shout, and rub their sleeves at the discovery; we looked as funny at one another as three ambassadors at a congress. It was as good as the development of a state secret. The best of it is, that it will be a little fortune to the keeper, and a dowry to his weans. Henceforth pilgrimages will be made to the shrine, vieing with Loch Katrine and the pass of Aberfoil in the number of its votaries and the ardour of its worshippers."

"We bade good bye to Newark, and awa' up the braes o' Yarrow, shouting and laughing with the wild echoes of the flood, to the great dismay of sundry bare-legged Naiads and goddesses, peeping ever and anon through 'covert green and woodland dell.'

"My companion had to make a call at his tailor's, who inhabits the low house nigh to the ford.—A very strange personage this, but of an infinite humour, and pomposity of demeanour."

"It was the very man whom Blackwood accused in one of his 'magi,' of regularly buying two copies of that work, and reading both, from beginning to end, imagining them to be diverse and distinct from each other. He was mightily affronted at this insinuation, and duly wrote and concocted a letter—such a curiosity as was never before seen since the world whistled. I recollect being indulged with a sight of it in the 'back-shop.' He utterly disclaimed taking two copies of the magazine under any such erroneous impression. The true reason was, that wife and bairns had such an 'ettling for the beuk' that he had no comfort on the occasion, and was often obliged to run for it—to creep behind a stone dike or into a hedge bottom, in the hope of getting free from their importunities, and even then he was in no wise safe from interruption,—some kind neighbour or another would scent him out, and be 'aye licken his fingers frae the dish.' Taking two copies set all to rights, and each party enjoyed their meal in peace. He was dreadfully puzzled about the different 'Hore' scattered through the numbers, and consulted the minister about their reference to certain matters then abroad, but to which he thought no decent respectable publication like 'Blackwood' should have alluded."

"We journeyed on to Altrieve, where Hogg has a quiet domicile within sight of St. Mary's banks, and Dryhope tower, where 'the flower of Yarrow lived and died.' It was high dinner hour when we arrived. A hearty welcome—a dish of boiled trout fresh from the Lake, and et ceteras ad lib,

gave a *gout* and a relish to the succeeding conceptions and concoctions, over which Mrs. Hogg presided,—while the exhilarating influence of high animal spirits, and a 'wee drappie' of the elixir of the mountain, threw a vivid hue and a glowing atmosphere around every theme on which we dilated.

"Hogg is a kind-hearted creature, a man of the rarest genius, compounded out of the most heterogeneous elements, as if nature in one of her freaks had determined to evince the omnipotence of her power, over the most untractable and unpromising materials,—to mould even the stubborn and unyielding forms over which she broods, into combinations of the most exquisite symmetry and delicacy of texture.

"I reckon Hogg's achievements on a par with the most wonderful records of human capability extant. A shepherd's boy, as uncouth and ungifted as any of his tribe—apparently without a glimmer, or an idea of the beautiful or sublime, any further than as it might have relation to a dry bed and a comfortable meal—scarcely able to write his name at a very advanced period of growth. Now he blazes forth, a bright intelligence amongst the lights of the age. Really his works deserve to form part and parcel of our national literature, at once a monument to his glory and an inextinguishable record of the operations of that genius, who setteth no bounds to her habitation, nor suffereth control."

Of the late poet-laureate we have the following:—

"Saturday, Sept. 30th.

"We have seen Wordsworth to-day. As we accompanied friends of my husband's (the Rev. J. H. and Mrs. Addison, of Birthwaite Abbey) who happened to owe Mr. and Mrs. Wordsworth a morning visit, we did not feel intruders. As usual the day was brilliant, we had a delightful row up the lake, the trees on the islands had the rich scarlet and russet tints of autumn, while those on the shore still retained their soft green, making the edges of the lake perfectly verdant. A flight of snow that fell yesterday covered the tops of the mountains which came out in the full sunshine, pure white against the brightest of blue skies. Past the lake, we rowed up the Rotha as far as it is practicable, and there leaving the boats—cloaks as well—moored to the margin of the stream, we took a beautiful path, through private grounds, on the left of the river, passing Fox How, from whence I bring you an ivy relic, to Rydal Mount. Mr. Wordsworth, (as of course he is here,) was just sitting down to dinner; he came out and begged us to stay in the drawing-room, or in the grounds if we preferred it, till dinner was over. We chose to stroll about, which gave time for a sketch. After a short time, Mr. Wordsworth came and took us into the drawing-room to see Mrs. W. He was not so tall as I had expected, probably the effect of years; his voice somewhat indistinct, gave indications of old age, not so his ideas or expressions. The lower part of his face is deeply furrowed; but when sitting with his back to the light, animated in conversation, every thing is lost in its glowing expression, except his noble expanse of forehead. He chatted away on literary matters with my husband, evidently with hearty pleasure. They talked of a distinguished living writer; of his style, Mr. Wordsworth remarked, that every sentence seemed finished by itself, which was never the case with our best writers—that reviewing had an injurious effect on the style of a literary man, the reviewer has ever to be saying something that will tell, every sentence must be striking.

"Allusion was made to a new neighbour; Wordsworth observed that she was clever, but apt to be imposed on; he confessed that on the whole, he was sorry she had come there, on account of her habit of not going to a place of worship; the example might do no harm in London, Manchester, and those large places, where people did not know their next-door neighbour, but here it was different, and no good she could do would be equal to the harm of her example; 'but,' he added, 'I

like her benevolence, and forgive many things for that.' One other remark he made must not be forgotten; speaking of a writer whom he considered not a safe guide on account of his prejudices, he said, 'He is so prejudiced he does not know when he lies.'

"Altogether the visit was one of high delight. There was so much more enthusiasm about him, than from the philosophic cast of his poems I had expected. The genial glow of his manner, the warmth of his shake of hands at parting, and especially the quick pleasure with which he turned round to his wife whenever she made a remark, and the affectionate tone in which, when he did not catch it, he would inquire, 'What did you say, Mary?' quite won my heart. He impressed us, too, as a Christian living in obedience to, and communion with Heaven. His personal character seemed to come out with a completeness one would hardly have believed possible in our interview. I shall understand and love all he has written, the better for this visit."

We have given this prominence to our notice of Mr. Roby's biography, in order to warn ladies from giving too ready publicity to feelings, which, however commendable in a wife, are not such as can be participated in by the world. Mr. Roby, it appears, wooed and won the authoress in the decline of his life, at the Water-cure at Malvern, and it is, perhaps, some excuse for Mrs. Roby that she must have collected much of the material on trust, while her pen has been moved to more than eloquence by the powers of Gully and all his works. It is to be regretted that a fair middling reputation has been perilled by so much unwise panegyric; for these two letters, interesting though they be, hardly suffice to justify the publication of a volume which ought never to have found its way out of Mrs. Roby's boudoir.

Himalayan Journals. By Joseph Dalton

Hooker, M.D., R.N., F.R.S. Murray.

(Second Notice.)

THE second volume of Dr. Hooker's excellent work is even more interesting than the first, since the narrative of observation is enlivened by the story of adventure. The endeavours, fortunately successful, of our traveller to reach the frontiers of Tibet and the boundaries of Sikkim were systematically obstructed, and every possible difficulty and discouragement cast in his way. The author of the mischief was the Dewan or minister of the aged and infirm Rajah of Sikkim. The latter was a Tibetan, and so was his minister, a blustering, low-born, energetic trader, parasitic on Sikkim, hated and despised by the better families and priests of the country, who, however, had not the spirit to turn him out, and feared by his imbecile master. The prince himself was poor and powerless, without any revenue to speak of, and with no army to enforce his authority. The Dewan dreaded the British, chiefly because they could undersell him in his mercantile transactions, and contrived to keep us in ignorance of the miserable weakness of the territory, which, poor as it was, he plundered. The Chinese authorities regarded Sikkim as under English sway, and knew its resources and the capacities of its rulers much better than ourselves. Indeed many of our authorities, on the contrary, believed that the Sikkim Rajah was a tributary of China, and consequently a personage not to be lightly interfered with. Whatever importance belonged to the ruler of Sikkim and his people was derived from these mistakes about his power, and the position of his country between Nepal and Bootan,

servicing to limit the ambition of the former state, and the conquering energy of our old acquaintance Jung Behadoor. The determination on the part of Dr. Campbell, our enlightened and able superintendent of Darjeeling, personally to ascertain the real state of affairs, and put the intercourse between the Sikkim government, such as it was and is, on a more satisfactory footing, led to the occurrences graphically narrated by Dr. Hooker, who, along with the superintendent, was made prisoner, and both, especially the latter, barbarously maltreated by the creatures of the Dewan. Fortunately before this circumstance, Dr. Hooker, first by himself, and afterwards in company with Dr. Campbell, succeeded, by dint of sheer resolution and perseverance, in defeating all the Dewan's attempts at preventing an exploration of the passes into Tibet, an expedition of the greatest consequence, and in its results of inestimable value to geographical science and natural history. In the end the insult offered to our countrymen was avenged, by the seizure of the Rajah's best lands, and of the whole southern part of Sikkim, to the great benefit and gratification of the inhabitants. The obnoxious Dewan is disgraced, and the friendly Lamas are rewarded. We feel sure that the perusal of Dr. Hooker's narrative will enlighten the minds of some of our politicians, whose notions about Indian frontier states are anything but clear.

Dr. Hooker gives many curious notices of the ways and means of the Tibetan borderers and their priestly chiefs, the Lamas, whose temples, modes of worship, costume, compendious methods of *wheeling* their prayers, and appetite for brick-tea, are well pictured by him. The following little trait of a Lama's educational methods may serve to furnish a new idea for our educational friends at Marlborough House, or the Privy Council:—

"The Choongtam Lama was at a small temple near Tungu during the whole of my stay, but he would not come to visit me, pretending to be absorbed in his devotions. Passing one day by the temple, I found him catechising two young aspirants for holy orders. He is one of the Drukpa sect, wore his mitre, and was seated cross-legged on the grass with his scriptures on his knees: he put questions to the boys, when he who answered best took the other some yards off, put him down on his hands and knees, threw a cloth over his back, and mounted; then kicking, spurring, and cuffing his steed, he was galloped back to the Lama and kicked off; when the catechising recommenced."

The appearance of one of the Chinese Tibetan authorities, or, rather, captains of frontier troops, is thus described:—

"The Dingpun paid his respects to us in the morning, wearing, besides his green cloak, a white cap with a green glass button, denoting his rank; he informed us that he had written to his superior officer at Kambajong, explaining his motives for conducting us across the frontier, and he drew from his breast a long letter, written on *Daphne* paper, whose ends were tied with floss silk, with a large red seal; this he pompously delivered, with whispered orders to an attendant, and sent him off. He admired our clothes extremely, and then my percussion gun, the first he had seen; but above all he admired rum and water, which he drank with intense relish, leaving a mere sip for his comrades at the bottom of his little wooden cup, which they emptied, and afterwards licked clean, and replaced in his breast for him. We made a large basin full of very weak grog for his party, who were all friendly and polite; and having made us the unexpected offer of allowing us to rest ourselves for the day at Yeumtso, he left us, and practised his

men at firing at a mark, but they were very indifferent shots."

Travelling in Sikkim, setting all human annoyances aside, is neither easy nor pleasant. Obstacles, organic and inorganic, block or retard the way. Among the latter land-slips, Dr. Hooker's account of which are especially deserving of the notice of the geologist, are highly formidable; and as to the organic annoyances, they are countless: pests of both kinds are recorded often in our traveller's pages, and the following extract will give some idea of the troubles they caused him:—

"The most prominent effect of the steepness of the valleys is the prevalence of land-slips, which sometimes descend for 3000 feet, carrying devastation along their course: they are caused either by the melting of the snow-beds on the mountains, or by the action of the rains on the stratified rocks, and are much increased in effect and violence by the heavy timber-trees which, swaying forwards, loosen the earth at their roots, and give impetus to the mass. This phenomenon is as frequent and destructive as in Switzerland, where, however, more lives are lost, from the country being more populous, and from the people recklessly building in places particularly exposed to such accidents. A most destructive one had, however, occurred here the previous year, by which a village was destroyed, together with twelve of its inhabitants, and all the cattle. The fragments of rock precipitated are sometimes of enormous size, but being a soft micaceous, are soon removed by weathering. It is in the rainy season that landslips are most frequent, and shortly after rain they are pretty sure to be heard far or near. I crossed the debris of the great one alluded to, on the first march beyond Singtam: the whole face of the mountain appeared more or less torn up for fully a mile, presenting a confused mass of white micaceous clay, full of angular masses of rock. The path was very difficult and dangerous, being carried along the steep slope, at an angle, in some places, of 35°; and it was constantly shifting, from the continued downward sliding, and from the action of streams, some of which are large, and cut deep channels. In one I had the misfortune to lose my only sheep, which was carried away by the torrent. These streams were crossed by means of sticks and rickety bamboos, and the steep sides (sometimes twenty or thirty feet high), were ascended by notched poles.

"The weather continued very hot for the elevation (4000 to 5000 feet), the rain brought no coolness, and for the greater part of the three marches between Singtam and Chakoong, we were either wading through deep mud, or climbing over rocks. Leeches swarmed in incredible profusion in the streams and damp grass, and among the bushes: they got into my hair, hung on my eyelids, and crawled up my legs and down my back. I repeatedly took upwards of a hundred from my legs, where the small ones used to collect in clusters on the instep: the sores which they produced were not healed for five months afterwards, and I retain the scars to the present day. Snuff and tobacco leaves are the best antidote, but when marching in the rain it is impossible to apply this simple remedy to any advantage. The best plan I found to be rolling the leaves over the feet, inside the stockings, and powdering the legs with snuff.

"Another pest is a small midge, or sand-fly, which causes intolerable itching, and subsequent irritation, and is in this respect the most insufferable torment in Sikkim: the minutest rent in one's clothes is detected by the acute senses of this insatiable bloodsucker, which is itself so small as to be barely visible without a microscope. We daily arrived at our camping-ground, streaming with blood, and mottled with the bites of peepsas, gnats, midges, and mosquitos, besides being infested with ticks.

"As the rains advanced, insects seemed to be called into existence in countless swarms; large and small moths, cockchafers, glow-worms, and cockroaches, made my tent a Noah's ark by night,

when the candle was burning, together with winged ants, May-flies, flying earwigs, and many beetles, while a very large species of *Tipula* (daddy-long-legs) swept its long legs across my face as I wrote my journal, or plotted off my map. After retiring to rest and putting out the light, they gradually departed, except a few which could not find the way out, and remained to disturb my slumbers."

And again:—

"I have seldom had occasion to allude to snakes, which are rare and shy in most parts of the Himalaya; I, however, found an extremely venomous one at Choongtam; a small black viper, a variety of the cobra di capello, which it replaces in the drier grassy parts of the interior of Sikkim, the large cobra not inhabiting in the mountain regions. Altogether I only collected about twelve species in Sikkim, seven of which are venomous, and all are dreaded by the Lepchas. An enormous hornet *Vespa magnifica*, Sm.), nearly two inches long, was here brought to me alive in a cleft-stick, lolling out its great thorn-like sting, from which drops of a milky poison distilled: its sting is said to produce fatal fevers in men and cattle, which may very well be the case, judging from that of a smaller kind, which left great pain in my hand for two days, while a feeling of numbness remained in the arm for several weeks. It is called Vok by the Lepchas, a common name for any bee: its larvae are said to be greedily eaten, as are those of various allied insects.

"Choongtam boasts a profusion of beautiful insects, amongst which the British swallow-tail butterfly (*Papilio Machaon*) disports itself in company with magnificent black, gold, and scarlet-winged butterflies, of the Trojan group, so typical of the Indian tropics. At night my tent was filled with small water-beetles (*Berosi*) that quickly put out the candle; and with lovely moths came huge cockchafers (*Encerris Griffithii*), and enormous and fetid flying-bugs (of the genus *Dereceterix*), which bear great horns on the thorax. The irritation of mosquito and midge bites, and the disgusting insects that clung with spiny legs to the blankets of my tent and bed, were often as effectual in banishing sleep, as were my anxious thoughts regarding the future."

As a contrast to this enumeration of horrors, we will cite one of the many admirable pictures given by our traveller of the beauties of Himalayan vegetation. His book abounds in true, excellent, and, indeed, unrivalled descriptions, which, through the certainty of the knowledge of the narrator, acquire a value far beyond that of the notices of floral associations usually found in the journals of voyagers. The locality of the following assemblage was in the Zemu valley, and the time of the year, June:—

"Rhododendrons occupy the most prominent place, clothing the mountain slopes with a deep green mantle glowing with bells of brilliant colours; of the eight or ten species growing here, every bush was loaded with as great a profusion of blossoms as are their northern congeners in our English gardens. Primroses are next, both in beauty and abundance; and they are accompanied by yellow cowslips, three feet high, purple polyanthus, and pink large-flowered dwarf kinds nestling in the rocks, and an exquisitely beautiful blue miniature species, whose blossoms sparkle like sapphires on the turf. Gentians begin to unfold their deep azure bells, aconites to rear their tall blue spikes, and fritillaries and *Meconopsis* burst into flower. On the black rocks the gigantic rhubarb forms pale pyramidal towers a yard high, of inflated reflexed bracts, that conceal the flowers, and over-lapping one another like tiles, protect them from the wind and rain: a whorl of broad green leaves edged with red spreads on the ground at the base of the plant, contrasting in colour with the transparent bracts, which are yellow, margined with pink. This is the handsomest herbaceous plant in Sikkim: it is called 'Tchuka,' and the acid stems are eaten both raw and boiled; they are hollow and full of pure

water: the root resembles that of the medicinal rhubarb, but it is spongy and inert; it attains a length of four feet, and grows as thick as the arm. The dried leaves afford a substitute for tobacco; a smaller kind of rhubarb is however more commonly used in Tibet for this purpose; it is called 'Chila.'

"The elevation being 12,080 feet, I was above the limit of trees, and the ground was covered with many kinds of small-flowered honeysuckles, berry, and white rose."

In 1850, on Dr. Hooker's departure from Doringling, a new expedition was projected, and, in company with Dr. Thomson, our traveller proceeded to the Khasia mountains, in eastern Bengal, at the head of the great delta of the Ganges and Burrampootee. The narrative of this journey is given at length, and is highly interesting. The country and people described are very different from those of the Alpine regions previously explored. The Khasia people are of Indo-Chinese race, peculiar in many respects, not pleasant to deal with, sulky, intractable, rude and barbarous, pork-eaters and milk-haters. Pigs and fowls are reared by them in abundance, but the eggs of the latter are used only for cracking, as fortune-telling, or, rather, omen-indicating instruments. Their most important ceremonies are funereal, and their principal monuments have reference to the dead. These monuments are highly curious, bearing the closest resemblance to Druidical erections, consisting of gigantic slabs of stone, reared in circles or rows, or placed exactly as they are in cromlechs. The platform of the Khasia mountains is 4000 feet above the sea, and bears a most remarkable flora, in great part of temperate forms and European genera, though at so comparatively low elevation. The following summary describes the character of the more tropical vegetation of their sides:—

"The sub-tropical scenery of the lower and outer Sikkim Himalaya, though on a much more gigantic scale, is not comparable in beauty and luxuriance with the really tropical vegetation induced by the hot, damp, and insular climate of these perennially humid mountains. At the Himalaya forests of gigantic trees, many of them deciduous, appear from a distance as masses of dark gray foliage, clothing mountains 10,000 feet high: here the individual trees are smaller, more varied in kind, of a brilliant green, and contrast with gray limestone and red sandstone rocks and silvery cataracts. Palms are more numerous here; the cultivated *Areca* (betel-nut) especially, raising its graceful stem and feathery crown, 'like an arrow shot down from heaven,' in luxuriance and beauty above the verdant slopes. This difference is at once expressed to the Indian botanist by defining the Khasia flora as of Malayan character; by which is meant the prevalence of brilliant glossy-leaved evergreen tribes of trees (as *Euphorbiacea* and *Urticeae*), especially figs, which abound in the hot gulleys, where the property of their roots, which insinuate and form natural grafts, is taken advantage of in bridging streams, and in constructing what are called living bridges, of the most picturesque forms. *Combretaceae*, oaks, oranges, *Garcinia* (gamboge), *Diospyros*, figs, Jacks, plantains, and *Pandanus*, are more frequent here, together with pinnated leaved *Leguminosae*, *Meliaceae*, vines and peppers, and above all palms, both climbing ones with pinnated shining leaves (as *Calamus* and *Plectocomia*), and erect ones with similar leaves as cultivated cocoa-nut, *Areca* and *Arenga*), and the broader-leaved wild betel-nut and beautiful *Caryota*, or wine-palm, whose immense decompound leaves are twelve feet long. Laurels and wild nutmegs, with *Henslowia*, *Itea*, &c., were frequent in the forest, with the usual prevalence of parasites, mistletoe, epiphytical *Orchideae*, *Eschynanthus*, ferns, mosses, and *Lycopodia*; and on the ground were

Rubiaceae, Scitamineae, ferns, Acanthaceae, beautiful balsams, and herbaceous and shrubby nettles. Bamboos of many kinds are very abundant, and these hills further differ remarkably from those of Sikkim in the great number of species of grasses."

A very different country is the great spread of flats that lies below—the Jheels and the Sunderbunds. The Khasia mountains rise abruptly from the Jheels, and seem like a great stone table on the plain. The study of these tropical flats is of much interest to the man of science, and every reader with geological tastes will appreciate the following remarks:—

"To the geologist the Jheels and Sunderbunds are a most instructive region, as whatever may be the mean elevation of their waters, a permanent depression of ten to fifteen feet would submerge an immense tract, which the Ganges, Burramooter, and Soormah would soon cover with beds of silt and sand. There would be extremely few shells in the beds thus formed, the southern and northern divisions of which would present two very different floras and faunas, and would in all probability be referred by future geologists to widely different epochs. To the north, beds of peat would be formed by grasses, and in other parts, temperate and tropical forms of plants and animals would be preserved in such equally balanced proportions as to confound the paleontologist; with the bones of the long-snouted alligator, Gangetic porpoise, Indian cow, buffalo, rhinoceros, elephant, tiger, deer, boar, and a host of other animals, he would meet with acorns of several species of oak, pinecones and magnolia fruits, rose seeds, and *Cycas* nuts, with palm nuts, screw-pines, and other tropical productions. On the other hand, the Sunderbunds portion, though containing also the bones of the tiger, deer, and buffalo, would have none of the Indian cow, rhinoceros, or elephant; there would be different species of porpoise, alligator, and deer, and none of the above mentioned plants (*Cycas*, oak, pine, magnolia and rose), which would be replaced by numerous others, all distinct from those of the Jheels, and many of them indicative of the influence of salt water, whose proximity (from the rarity of sea-shells) might not otherwise be suspected."

From among the many zoological memoranda, of peculiar interest, scattered profusely through Dr. Hooker's pages, we cannot resist quoting the following note of a most curious imitative organic phenomenon:—

"Mr. Theobald (my companion in this and many other rambles) pulled a lizard from a hole in the bank. Its throat was mottled with scales of brown and yellow. Three ticks had fastened on it, each of a size covering three or four scales: the first was yellow, corresponding with the yellow colour of the animal's belly, where it lodged; the second brown, from the lizard's head; but the third, which was clinging to the parti-coloured scales of the neck, had its body parti-coloured, the hues corresponding with the individual scales which they covered. The adaptation of the two first specimens in colour to the parts to which they adhered is sufficiently remarkable; but the third case was most extraordinary."

The getting-up of these journals is worthy of their matter. The illustrations, whether maps, plates, or woodcuts, are excellently executed, and selected with great judgment. Not one of them could be dispensed with; and Mr. Murray has done a real service to the cause of knowledge in thus liberally illustrating a work which must ever remain a standard one in every good library. It is, indeed, one of the very best books we have seen for a long time. Scientific travellers are not always the most agreeable writers, but this work is as attractive in its style as valuable in its matter.

Day and Night Songs. By William Allingham. Routledge & Co.

MR. ALLINGHAM is one of the few writers of poetry, in our day, whose pieces are worthy of being more than once printed. Of the poems contained in this collection, some have already appeared in 'Household Words,' 'Fraser's Magazine,' and other periodicals, and others in a volume published in 1850. The author has acted wisely in reducing the number of poems presented to public criticism. In this selection there are only thirty-two short pieces given, and some of them are to be ranked rather as light songs than regular poems. The best compositions are those of plaintive tone, expressing quiet musing, such as these lines:—

"LEVATI OCULOS.

- "I cried to God, in trouble for my sin;
To the Great God who dwelleth in the deeps.
The deeps return not any voice or sign.
"But with my soul I know thee, O Great God;
The soul thou givest knoweth thee, Great God;
And with my soul I sorrow for my sin.
"Full sure I am there is no joy in sin,
Joy-scented Peace is trampled under foot,
Like a white growing blossom into mud.
"Sin is establish'd subtly in the heart
As a disease; like a magician foul
Ruleth the better thoughts against their will.
"Only the rays of God can cure the heart,
Purge it of evil: there's no other way
Except to turn with the whole heart to God.
"In heavenly sunlight live no shades of fear;
The soul there, busy or at rest, hath peace;
And music floweth from the various world.
"The Lord is great and good, and is our God.
There needeth not a word but only thee;
Our God is good, our God is great. 'Tis well.
"All things are ever Gods; the shows of things
Are of men's fantasy, and warp'd with sin;
God, and the things of God, immutable.
"O great good God, my pray'r is to neglect
The shows of fantasy, and turn myself
To thy unfenced, unbounded warmth and light!
"Then were all shows of things a part of truth;
Then were my soul, if busy or at rest,
Residing in the house of perfect peace!"

Under the title of 'Æolian Harp' there is a dirge, worthy of being wedded to some wildly plaintive melody:—

- "What saith the river to the rushes grey,
Rushes sadly bending,
River slowly wending?
Who can tell the whisper'd things they say?
Youth, and prime, and life, and time,
For ever, ever fled away!
"Cast your wither'd garlands in the stream,
Low autumnal branches,
Round the skiff that launches
Wavering downward through the lands of dream.
Ever, ever fled away!
This the burden, this the theme.
"What saith the river to the rushes grey,
Rushes sadly bending,
River slowly wending?
It is near the closing of the day,
Near the night. Life and light
For ever, ever fled away!
"Draw him tideward down; but not in haste.
Mouldering daylight lingers;
Night with her cold fingers
Sprinkles moonbeams on the dim sea-waste.
Ever, ever fled away!
Vainly cherish'd! vainly chased!
"What saith the river to the rushes grey,
Rushes sadly bending,
River slowly wending?
Where in darkest glooms his bed we lay,
Up the cave moans the wave,
For ever, ever, ever fled away!"

In somewhat similar strain is this:—

"AUTUMNAL SONNET.

- "Now Autumn's fire burns slowly along the woods,
And day by day the dead leaves fall and melt,
And night by night the monitory blast
Waits in the key-hole, telling how it pass'd
O'er empty fields, or upland solitudes,
Or grim wide wave; and now the power is felt
Of melancholy, tenderer in its moods
Than any joy indulgent summer dealt.
Dear friends, together in the glimmering eve,
Pensive and glad, with tones that recognise
The soft invisible dew on each one's eyes,
It may be, somewhat thus we shall have leave
To walk with memory, when distant lies
Poor Earth, where we were wont to live and grieve."

We give, as an agreeable contrast to these sombre subjects, an ode to Spring, the coming of which has not often been welcomed with better strains than those of the three concluding stanzas:—

- "Ye coax the timid verdure,
Along the hills of Spring,
Blue skies and gentle breezes,
And soft clouds wandering!
The quire of birds on budding spray,
Loud larks in ether sing;
A fresher pulse, a wider day,
Give joy to everything.
"The gay translucent morning
Lies glittering on the sea,
The noonday sprinkles shadows
Athwart the daisied lea;
The round Sun's sinking scarlet rim
In vapours hideth he,
The darkling hours are cool and dim,
As vernal night should be.
"Our Earth has not grown aged,
With all her countless years;
She works, and never waxes,
Is glad, and nothing fears;
The glow of air, broad land, and wave,
In season re-appears;
And shall, when slumber in the grave
These human smiles and tears.
"Oh, rich in songs and colours,
Thou joy-reviving Spring!
Some hopes are child'd with winter
Whose term thou canst not bring.
Some voices answer not thy call
When sky and woodland ring,
Some faces come not back at all
With primrose-blossoming.
"The distant-flying swallow,
The upward-yearning seed,
Find nature's promise faithful,
Attain their humble need.
Great Parent! thou hast also form'd
These hearts which throb and bleed;
With love, truth, hope, their life hast warm'd,
And what is best, decreed."

Some of the songs are spirited in tone, and elegant in diction. Mr. Allingham seems to have a chastened taste, and considerable ear for melody—two requisites for producing poetry of more lasting reputation than what writers of greater genius and fancy usually accomplish in their irregular and careless flights.

The Life and Correspondence of Henry St. George Tucker, late Accountant-General of Bengal, and Chairman of the East India Company. By John William Kaye. Author of the 'History of the War in Afghanistan.' Bentley.

THE reader of this biography will obtain from it a tolerably clear and connected view of Indian government, during the last half century. In his official position in the East, and afterwards as one of the directors of the Company at home, the name of Mr. Tucker is connected with all the most important events that occurred during that period. Nor is his life less notable as a record of persevering industry, and of manly struggle with difficulties, till prosperity and fame crowned his efforts, therein affording an instructive and encouraging study of personal character. "I entered the world," he wrote to one of his sons long after, "without money or friends, and I had to struggle for almost fifteen years against poverty and debt. I lived for a time on about thirty rupees per month in Rannee-Moodee-Gully, in a small hovel which I had to maintain against a colony of rats. My health occasionally failed, but a removal to this country, or the comforts of marriage, never entered into my contemplation. So far from it, I was obliged to assist others, in spite of my pecuniary embarrassments. Well, after all, here I am, at the age of sixty-nine, enjoying a fair state of health and measure of strength, with every blessing that I could desire. This, too, after bringing up a large family with a moderate fortune, not one six-

pence of which was disreputably acquired. * * * Consider these premises, and the result—and take comfort." Such in few words is the history of Henry St. George Tucker, and this the moral and practical lesson to be mainly drawn from it.—"Consider these premises, and the result—and take comfort." He went out to India in 1786, at the early age of sixteen, as a private adventurer. After serving the East India Company at home and abroad for above sixty years, he died, in 1851, in the eighty-first year of his age, and of his character and his career the biographer thus sketches the outline without partiality or exaggeration, as those who best knew him will testify:—

"It seldom happens that early development is not followed by early decay. But it is not too much to say of Henry St. George Tucker, that he was a statesman at eighteen and a statesman at eighty. There are few instances on record of men who, at the two extremes of so long a chain of years, have been endowed with so much intellectual strength, and been capable of such sustained efforts. There is a period in the lives of most men who have attained to an advanced age, from which a perceptible decline of mental power is to be traced. But following the career of Mr. Tucker over a space of more than half a century, I find it difficult to fix the point at which there was any increase or any diminution of his power to grapple with great questions, or to set forth his arguments in language distinguished alike by the strength and the transparency of crystal. Years, indeed, passed lightly over him. His remarkable memory was unclouded to the last. There was never any confusion in the arrangement of his ideas, or any obscurity in his diction. In the lasting qualities of his mind he was, perhaps, unsurpassed by any example upon record.

"His reputation in early life was first established by the consummate skill with which he handled intricate questions of Indian Finance. He was unquestionably the most eminent Financier that ever presided over the Indian Exchequer. But although, in this capacity, he rendered great services to his country, for which he has never yet been assigned his due place in History, it was by no means his only claim to be placed in the front ranks of Indian statesmen. Both in matters of domestic and foreign policy his foresight and sagacity were conspicuous. In respect of those questions of internal administration which necessarily engage so large a share of the time and attention both of the local and the home Governments, he belonged to what is now called an old school—a school in which Shore, Barlow, and Edmonstone taught, and of which Cornwallis and Wellesley were the patrons. It has now ceased to be popular; but there was at the bottom of the policy which it encouraged a respect for individual rights which we look for in vain in the tenets of the new school which is fast supplanting it. To the sovereignty of Justice Mr. Tucker was ever loyal. He had no toleration for those politicians with whom Resumption and Annexation are household words, and who sit loosely to the obligations of all sorts of covenants and treaties. The same leading principles which regulated his dealings with the people of our own territories, spoke out also from all that he said and did in relation to the rights of native princes and foreign nations. He had never any eagerness to confiscate the principalities of our dependents, or to absorb the kingdoms of our enemies. He was the champion of the weak; the shelter of the prostrate; and he was never more earnest in his utterances than when he was inculcating lessons of mercy and forbearance.

"There was a generosity, indeed, in his character as a statesman, which had something chivalrous and romantic about it. He was continually in an attitude of defence and protection, with a stretched-out arm to shield the oppressed. He may have sometimes invested the objects of his compassion with qualities which did not rightfully belong to

them, for it is in the very nature of a generous disposition to be confiding and unsuspicious; and if he erred in this, the error is one only of noble minds, to be recorded and dwelt upon with pleasure. But his generosity and judgment were not often at variance. The veil of glittering sophistry which injustice draws before its acts—the mist through which national vanity and national prejudice go blindly groping—never obscured the truth from his eyes. He judged the case of others as he would his own, and called things by the names that rightfully belonged to them. He was as genuine a lover of his country as any of his cotemporaries; but he did not conceive it to be the truest patriotism to varnish her misdeeds, and to encourage her in acts of injustice and oppression.

"There was a noticeable peculiarity in the constitution of his mind to which some of these results may be traced. With a mathematical exactness and precision, which ensured correctness of statement and soundness of argument in all his writings and speeches, he combined much of the enthusiasm and imaginativeness of the poetical temperament. The dry studies of Finance, in which, during all the earlier years of his adult life, he was continually engaged, never deadened the liveliness of his fancy or blunted the acuteness of his sensibilities. He was a great reader of polite literature; and especially delighted in the works of the great masters of British song. He delighted, too, in the recreation of verse, and had a taste for dramatic composition, which, if it had been decreed that he should lead a life of literary leisure, he would probably have less sparingly indulged. To the charms of music, too, he was peculiarly alive, and the fineness of his ear, which is to be discerned also in the nicely-balanced structure of his literary compositions, rendered him as a critic fastidiously correct. Upon his public demonstrations these lighter accomplishments were not wholly without an effect, for he was wont frequently to introduce both into his speeches and his writings brief illustrative quotations from the great dramatists, or snatches of stirring national songs. It was his fortune to be a financier; but it was his delight to breathe an atmosphere of poetry and romance.

"But it is only by associating those qualities, which illustrated his public career as a statesman, with those which graced and beautified his domestic life, that the character of the man is to be fitly portrayed. There was in Henry St. George Tucker a rare union of masculine firmness and courage, with a kindness so winning and a tenderness so engaging, that all who dwelt beneath his roof were drawn to him by feelings of the most hallowed affection. The nearer you were to him, the more you loved and the more you honoured him. Coldness and harshness were alike foreign to his nature. He invited confidence by his own openness and unreserve; and he so tempered reproof with mildness, that his lessons made a lasting impression on his children, but never left a sting behind them. In his own home he was not only the loving husband and the indulgent parent, but the most cheerful of companions—the life and soul of the family party—youthful among the youthful, and among the sportive ever full of sport. Whatever may have happened to vex or to distress him abroad, he carried home to the domestic circle the same evenness of temper, the same undisturbed serenity of mind. No disappointment ever embittered him; sickness and pain never made him querulous. As years advanced, all his fine qualities seemed to ripen under the sun of time; and he was never more loveable than when he was summoned from the scenes which he had so long gladdened by his presence.

"Of the liberality of his nature I have already spoken. He had an open hand and an open heart; but he was not a thoughtless giver. His generosity was controlled and tempered by prudence. It was prompt, but considerate; quick, but not hasty. And it was utterly free from every taint of ostentation. His bounty was, for the most part, exercised in secret. It was never talked of; it was little known. He gave when he had little to give; and he gave when Providence had increased his

store. It may be truly said of Henry St. George Tucker, as it was said of William Penn, that 'some of the best pages of his history were written in his private cash-book.'

"And as he was pitiful in the extreme to all who needed his assistance, so was he uniformly courteous to all men with whom he was brought into public or private intercourse. He used to say that he had many friends and many enemies; but although the friendship was not all on one side, the enmity was; for he never harboured a vindictive or malignant feeling, and was grieved when he heard others speaking evil of those who had done him wrong. He lived, indeed, as a Christian ought to live—in charity with all men; and he walked humbly with his God. Humbly, but most hopefully, he walked; approaching the great hour of eternal change in all the serenity of a quiet conscience, grateful for the Past, expectant for the Future, only regretting his translation to another world for the sake of those who would remain to feel the great void that was left by the removal of Henry St. George Tucker."

When in his seventieth year, Mr. Tucker began to write, for the amusement and instruction of his children, the story of his life. Only a fragment of this autobiography was prepared. It gives the recollections of his childhood in his native island of St. George's, in the Bermudas, of his school-boy days in England, and of his voyage to India as a friendless and neglected midshipman. The style in which this is done leads us to regret deeply that the purpose was not further carried out, the more so when we read the following passage, taken from the brief introduction to the fragment extant:—

"I may add (wrote Mr. Tucker in 1840) that in sketching my past life, I shall have an opportunity of paying a just tribute of respect to those benefactors and friends whom I have loved, and whose friendship and regard have been to me the source of infinite gratification. I have been much in the way of observing men who have distinguished themselves in public life, and whose names will appear in history; and as I am habitually an attentive observer of character, I may from time to time be able to give some sketches of those eminent persons which will at least be interesting to my own family—I allude more particularly to my early patron, Sir William Jones, the good Lord Cornwallis, Sir John Shore, Henry Colebrooke, Lords Minto, Hastings, and others."

Mr. Kaye has wisely made much use of the autobiography in the beginning of his volume, though it only brings the story down to the commencement of Mr. Tucker's sixteenth year. The story of the outward voyage in the *William Pitt* Indianman is full of incident, and presents a striking picture of life at sea as it fell to the lot of young midshipmen sixty years ago. But we must pass on, without attempting to give any connected outline of Mr. Tucker's personal history, to notice some of the passages of his life bearing on subjects of public interest in our own time. The estimation in which he was held as a servant of the Indian government may be seen from the following minute, which the Governor-General, Lord Wellesley, placed on record when he retired from the office of Accountant-General in 1804:—

"Fort William, May the 1st, 1804.
"The Governor-General, in accepting Mr. Tucker's resignation of the office of Accountant-General, considers it to be his duty to record the high sense which he entertains of the great and important public services rendered by Mr. Tucker, in the discharge of the functions of Accountant-General, during a crisis of considerable difficulty, and under circumstances of peculiar anxiety and embarrassment.

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General at Fort William, must be considered as the principal officer of finance of the British Government in India, on the present extended scale of this empire. The labour and attention required in the preparation of the intricate and voluminous accounts of the Presidency of Bengal, form only one branch of the public duty of that officer. It is the province of the Accountant-General of Bengal to observe with unremitting attention the state of public credit, and of financial management, in every part of the British Asiatic possessions, extending even to the state of affairs at Canton in China; to ascertain the circumstances by which the general finances of the Company in Asia may at any time be affected; and to suggest for the consideration of the supreme authority in India, such measures as shall appear to be calculated to improve or to confirm the credit of the public securities of Government, and to correct the administration of the finances at any of the British settlements in India.

"Mr. Tucker was appointed to the office of Accountant-General in the month of March, 1801; and it is a tribute of justice due to the merit of that valuable public officer, to declare that the Governor-General has derived the most useful and able assistance from Mr. Tucker's advice in the arrangement and execution of every important measure of finance adopted since that period of time.

"The success which has attended those measures has been uniform and extraordinary. During the two last years, the credit of the securities of this Government has been raised to a higher standard than at any period of time since the existence of a public debt in India; and although a considerable addition has necessarily been made to the amount of the public debt of the Presidency of Fort William, the annual interest of the present debt does not materially exceed the interest payable by Government on the public debt as it stood in the year 1801.

"The Governor-General is satisfied that the highest merit is to be attributed to Mr. Tucker, in carrying into effect the measures adopted by Government for the improvement of the administration of the finances of the Presidency of Fort William; and that the prudence, skill, diligence, and judgment manifested by Mr. Tucker in his public capacity as Accountant-General, have proved considerably useful in establishing the public credit of the Company in India on a solid and permanent basis; the great zeal, industry, and integrity manifested by Mr. Tucker in the performance of his public duty, in every situation, have been uniform and exemplary. The Governor-General, therefore, records with great satisfaction his highest approbation of the merit and services of Mr. Tucker; and he entertains a confident persuasion that Mr. Tucker's services will be duly appreciated by the Honourable the Court of Directors.

(Signed) "WELLESLEY."

He was afterwards called upon to aid the Government in a period of great financial difficulty, and his services were attended with the most gratifying success. When he left India finally, in 1810, he carried with him the thanks of the Government in a despatch addressed to the court of Directors, and also bearing a private letter to Lord Melville, from the Governor-General, Lord Minto, acknowledging in the most flattering terms the public benefits he had rendered during his financial career in the east. In 1811 he married, and was preparing in the following year to return to India, when, a vacancy occurring in the court of Directorship, he was urged by his friends to turn his attention to this sphere of active usefulness. For some years after he was much occupied with his canvass, the account of which is a good example of the laborious and humiliating manner in which the office of director had to be sought, even by a man of Mr. Tucker's distinguished ability and services. We give Mr. Kaye's description of a canvass for the direction:—

"A long and a wearisome business was this 'canvassing for the Direction.' The canvassing of constituencies is never pleasant. A man with a vote in his pocket rides the suffrage like a high horse. He is as extortionate as a Chief Inquisitor, and as presumptuous as the Grand Turk. He thinks himself privileged to ask anything, to exact anything, to dictate anything; and to give in return grudging assents, half promises, or impertinent denials. But the torture to which the candidate is subjected is generally brief. The circle of suffering is bounded by a few weeks. The canvass is not commenced till the opening has presented itself and the day of election is near at hand. Canvassing for the East India Direction was, however, a work of years. It looked far into the future. It addressed itself to remote contingencies. It contemplated events not *in esse*, but *in posse*. It anticipated the will of Providence, and hungered after empty places before the hour was ripe. It took its stand upon the doctrine of probabilities, and calculated rates of mortality. It assumed that the ranks of a corps, composed chiefly of men who had long passed their prime, must be periodically thinned, and that in no single year of the century was a vacancy far off. A man, therefore, declared himself a candidate for the Direction whenever he had a mind to put forth an address to the Proprietors of India Stock. The earlier he appeared in the field, the earlier in all probability would he be returned. So the candidate prepared himself for the contest—put himself into training, waited patiently, and worked strenuously till the day of battle had come.

"The operation was a tedious one. Of this patient waiting and this strenuous working it demanded, indeed, long years. When a man first declared himself a candidate for the Direction, he knew that others, who had declared themselves before, must be elected before him. It was not the first vacancy—or the second—or, perhaps, even the third, that he believed himself destined to fill. A vacancy occurred, and he did not even attempt to hoist himself into the place. Another, and he still looked on. A third; and he went, perhaps diffidently or carelessly, to the Poll, with scarcely a hope of success. A fourth, and there was a sharp contest—he was beaten by a few votes. A fifth, and he was triumphantly returned. He might be beaten twice, or he might be beaten only once; but few entered the Court without sustaining at least one defeat. Defeat, indeed, was almost a condition of election. I believe that there is but one Director, at this time, who secured his seat without years of canvass.

"That in this state of things there were inherent evils is not to be doubted. A resolute candidate, whatever might be his claims, sometimes gained his point by dint of sheer perseverance and importunity. A vote would often be promised to a man for two or three elections in advance, simply for the purpose of getting rid of a troublesome candidate, or, in very gentleness of heart, to smooth the asperity of a present refusal. So that when candidates of high rank presented themselves, they found the Proprietors already prospectively pledged, and were necessitated to endure the ordeal of initiatory failure or to withdraw altogether from the lists. So it happened that men of distinguished reputation, unwilling to be defeated by their inferiors, shrunk altogether from the contest. And it was said that the necessities of the canvass and the chances of the competition filled the Court with second-rate men.

"But this was only partly true. It has been asserted, on the other hand, that such men as Munro, Elphinstone, and Metcalfe, needed only to declare themselves as Candidates for the Direction to secure an immediate recognition of their claims. And I have the utmost faith in the assertion. I believe that there were few candidates who would not have voluntarily given place to such men, and temporarily released their supporters from the pledges that they had ignorantly given. I believe that the claims of such pre-eminent merit would never have been denied. But it must be admitted that many men, distinguished though in a lesser

degree, shrunk from the contest upon no insufficient grounds; and that others who had braved it, were defeated by their inferiors in ability and reputation. There was some leaven of real evil in this—but there was much, too, that lay only on the surface. It was found in effect that the men of the highest Indian reputations did not always make the best Directors. Great names are often great delusions. Men entered the Court with great reputations; and were found to be indolent, or prejudiced, or crotchety, or self-sufficient, and rather obstructed than aided the working of the machinery of Government. Sometimes they looked upon a seat in the India House as an easy-chair, in which they might lounge away the rest of their lives, reposing under the laurels which they had earned in India. On the other hand, men, who had a reputation to make, made it; and were the more eager to prove their fitness for office since they knew that it had been questioned. I do not mean to say that this was the rule, or that, if it had been, it would have proved the excellence of the system. I only mean that the most distinguished men did not necessarily make the best Directors, and that system had some advantages if it had many defects.

"Of the general results of the system—of the working of the Government so constituted, I shall, perhaps, have occasion to speak more fully in another chapter. To this only belongs the subject of election with the process of preliminary canvassing, which was a work demanding no common amount of energy and perseverance. It demanded, too, something more than this; it demanded leisure, and it demanded money. The constituency was scattered all over the British Islands. There was no place, from the Land's End to John O'Groats, in which a Proprietor of India Stock, with one or more stars to his name, might not be located. An active canvasser seldom relied on the effect of epistolary solicitation. He generally, either in his own person, or through the agency of a zealous friend, beat up the quarters of the voter. It would be curious to estimate the number of miles travelled by a candidate for the Direction in the course of his canvass. The expenditure of money, too, was not inconsiderable. A man desirous of a seat in Parliament goes down to a borough and spends, perhaps, a few thousand pounds in the course of a few days. The trouble and anxiety are intense whilst they last; but they are soon at an end. But the candidate for the Direction spent his money slowly, and his sufferings were spread over a space of several years. The dispersion of the constituency, too, was a great evil to the candidate. Men located in remote parts of the country had their public virtue or their private friendship severely tested by a request to come up to London, in days when travelling was both costly and expensive, to vote for an Indian Director. The reluctance of the indolent, and the scruples of the parsimonious, were alike to be overcome. Then there was often the inopportune intervention of a fit of gout, or an attack of lumbago, to keep the voter to his own room at the very time when he was required to put himself into the Mail, and be jolted to the Poll at the India House. All sorts of disappointments and vexations would arise in the course of a canvass of such long duration. The delay, too, tried the truth and consistency of voters to an extent sometimes beyond their powers of resistance. I am afraid it sometimes happened that men promised their support to one candidate, and voted for another.

"One of the first things that a candidate did, after declaring his intention to stand for the Direction, was to form a Committee of influential friends, and to hire a Committee-room at some first-rate tavern in the City. These Committees consisted of a certain number of good names; and two or three working members, who kept annotated lists of the Court of Proprietors, and studied all methods, direct and indirect, of approaching uncertain voters. There was 'treating,' too, doubtless on a liberal scale, but not after the fashion of a borough election. A candidate for the Direction did not keep open house during the years of his canvass, but he recognised the necessity of entertaining his

friends; and balls and dinner-parties constituted at least a portion of the legitimate allurements which were employed. This was, generally, the full extent of the bribery and corruption. The canvass, indeed, was altogether more toilsome than humiliating; and it may be questioned whether, as a rule, any other elections are conducted with so little resort to unworthy and illegal means of accomplishing a desired end."

In all questions relating to the internal government of India, the practical experience and accurate knowledge of Mr. Tucker rendered his opinion of great value. But his sagacity was not less remarkable in matters of foreign policy affecting the interests at once of India and of England. There are some important documents in the chapter relating to our relations with Persia, to which passing events invite careful attention. Mr. Tucker always dissuaded from attempting to oppose Russian influence at Teheran, either by money or force, the latter being unavailable against the military power that could be easily brought to bear on us, and the latter only strengthening the Persian government to our own probable detriment. The counteraction of Russian influence in the East, he contended, could only be effected in Europe. The correspondence with the Duke of Wellington, Lord Ellenborough, Sir Robert Peel, and other public men, on this subject, in 1838, is given by Mr. Kaye. We quote part of Mr. Tucker's first letter to the Duke of Wellington:—

"3, Upper Portland Place, 8th November, 1838.

"MY LORD DUKE, — The late military movements in India must, I am sure, have attracted your Grace's attention; and I will not therefore apologise for submitting some observations on a subject which is of the highest national interest.

"About five years ago, when I held the situation of Chairman of the Court, I ventured to urge an opinion that our concerns in Persia, in consequence of the position and movements of Russia, had become an European, and not an Asiatic question—that it was impossible to meet and counteract Russia at Teheran—that we might lavish our money upon a weak and corrupt court—but that we could not assist it with a military force sufficient to secure its independence as against Russia, whose armies were at hand; and that therefore our obvious policy was to operate upon Russia in Europe.

"I was also adverse to the project of establishing a mission at Caubul. The professed object was to extend our commerce with Central Asia by the Indus; but it appeared to me certain that our agency would assume a political character, and that we should soon be mixed up in all the perplexed politics of the Afghans; and even if we should succeed in opening a commercial road through the Punjab, or otherwise, to Afghanistan, we should only make a military road from that country to Hindostan, which appeared to me to be by no means desirable.

"Your Grace is aware that, about this time, the Persian Embassy was transferred to His Majesty's Government, the East India Company undertaking to defray the charge, to the extent of 12,000*l.* per annum, while the idea of establishing an agency at Caubul was for the time abandoned.

"But that which I had deprecated, and which it was my great object to prevent—a military movement from India—has now actually taken place; and, from certain indications, I am persuaded that it has taken place under orders from this country. The transfer of our Persian relations to his Majesty's Government has therefore, I apprehend, brought upon us the very evil which it was intended to prevent. The late Sir R. Grant would never, I am satisfied, have made that pitiful demonstration in the Persian Gulf without authority from hence, nor would Lord Auckland—who has shown great prudence in other instances—

have embarked, I think, in so fearful an enterprise without express authority from home.

"The evil, then, originating *here*, it is only in this country that its progress can be arrested."

The Duke in his reply agrees with Mr. Tucker as to the impolicy of the Afghan movements, but thinks that military demonstrations in the Persian Gulf, would directly affect Russia:—

"THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON TO MR. TUCKER.

"Strathfieldsaye, December 12th, 1838.

"MY DEAR SIR, — I have received and perused with much interest your letter of the 8th of December, I conclude, but you have written it November.

"I had understood that the raising the siege of Herat was to be the signal for abandoning the expedition to the Indus. It will be very unfortunate if that intention should be altered. The consequence of crossing the Indus once to settle a government in Afghanistan, will be a perennial march into that country.

"The policy of the Persian Court has of course been influenced by its fears of Russian invasion. On the other hand, nothing was to be looked for from her Majesty's Government. I should think that the invasion by the Persian Gulf was carried on as a make-weight against Russian influence. This invasion certainly had an effect, and if I have not been misinformed, affected the Russian Government to a greater degree than anything else that could be done.

"I don't know that while the siege of Herat continued, particularly by the aid of Russian officers and troops, even in the form of deserters, the Government of India could have done otherwise than prepare for its defence. But I cannot understand the Afghan or Sikh policy. I don't think that Runjeet Singh, established on both sides of the Indus, is a safer neighbour than Zemaun Shah was. An emergency, such as an immediately expected invasion, might oblige a government to take a course inconsistent with its ordinary political system; but when the danger is passed, we ought not to incur fresh risks in order to carry into execution a system which must eventually be inconvenient to us, and lead to fresh wars and expense. — I confess that I anxiously hope that the next accounts will bring us the report that the expedition is given up.—Believe me, ever yours most sincerely,

"WELLINGTON."

In all the subsequent stirring events of Anglo-Indian government, down to the appointment of Sir Charles Napier in 1849, he took an active part, and his opinions on most public questions of importance are recorded by his biographer. Mr. Kaye is anxious to disavow, in regard to this and his other works connected with India, any responsibility more than belongs to a private literary undertaking. He says that "personal circumstances have on a former occasion been much misstated, both in Parliament and the Press," referring, doubtless, chiefly to the remarks about the East India Company "keeping a historian." Whatever actual independence Mr. Kaye possesses, the partial bias in his writings to all that exalts the influence or fame of his most liberal patrons is apparent. The tendency to this is the chief fault we have to find with the present biography. If more of the East India directors had been men like Mr. Tucker, there would have been fewer complaints of Indian abuses and misgovernment.

NOTICES.

Nuga; the Solace of Rare Leisure. In Verse, original and translated. By the Rev. James Banks, M.A. Head master of the King Edward VI. Grammar School, Ludlow, Salop. R. Hardwicke.

WITH many, and apparently sincere, apologies, is this little volume introduced by the author, as the

fruit and the solace of 'rare leisure' snatched from the busy duties of a parish priest and a school-master. With explanations of this kind the public seldom feels much concerned, and books are read and judged on their own merits, with little consideration for the peculiar circumstances of their production. The apologies in this case, if any are required, are rather due to the bishop of the diocese, and to the parents of the Grammar-school boys, and this is in some measure gracefully done in the quotation from Cicero:—"Quis mihi jure succenseat, si, quantum ceteris ad suas res obundas, quantum ad festos dies ludorum celebrandos, quantum ad alias voluptates et ad ipsam requiem animi et corporis conceditur temporum; quantum alii tribuunt tempestivis conviviis, quantum denique alveolo, quantum pileæ, tantum mihi egomet ad hæc studia recolenda sumpsero." We give this quotation because we think it will engage sympathy for Mr. Banks as a scholar of studious habits and of refined taste. That he is also a man of genial spirit and warm affection may be gathered from the introductory sonnets to his friend, and to his wife, one of the latter of which we give:—

"Well knowest thou the end my hopes propose;
The aim which, unachieved, will call me blush
From cheeks that with an honest fervour flush:
To gather honour, and its rays oppose
(Thrice blest, if e'er my love the halo glows)
To storms, that else might pure ambition crush:
To find response in souls, like thine, which gush
With joy for joy, and woe for others' woes.
And oh! more precious, when remembrance clings
To some chance home-thought, which my song has drest
Perhaps in happy guise, to dream it brings
Some share of credit to the gentle breast,
Whence liveliest images of household things
Have sprung, and springing taught me there to rest."

Most of the original poems are simple in their style and pious in their sentiments, without much liveliness of fancy or felicity of diction. We give some average stanzas from a piece entitled 'The Teaching of the Snowdrop,' expressing the dying regret of a young girl:—

"I know my Saviour liveth!—
I too shall rise again:
New life the same Lord giveth,
Who gave and blest my pain.
Then dot my grave with snowdrops o'er;
Perchance I thus may tell
To others, when myself no more,
The truth I mark so well.
These snow-white flowers remind me
Of a saintly righteous soul;
Oh! that my Lord may find me
Meet for so pure a dress.
These, peeping from the wintry ground,
Bespeak the Saints' new spring:
Their golden rings the glory crown'd,
Their sweet rest entering.

"In all and each a token
Of life past death I see!
Those inner streaks have spoken
Of noblest prize to me.
They tell me of the palms in hand,
Which cleansed spirits bear:
When at th' Eternal throne they stand,
And praise succeeds to prayer."

The translations are chiefly from old Latin hynology. Some of the poems are rendered with elegance and spirit, especially that on 'The Glory and Joys of Paradise,' written by Peter Damian, Bishop of Ostia, in the early part of the eleventh century.

The Poetical Works of Goldsmith, Collins, and Warton. With Lives, Critical Dissertations, and Explanatory Notes. By the Rev. George Gilfillan. Edinburgh: James Nichol.

OF Mr. Nichol's library edition of the British poets this is an acceptable volume. Mr. Gilfillan continues to perform his editorial duties with ability and judgment. The biographical sketches are pleasingly written, and the critical and explanatory notes add to the interest of the works. Of Goldsmith only a slight notice is given, the subject being almost exhausted by previous biographers, but the lives of Collins and Warton supply less familiar subjects for biography. The remarks on the poetry of Warton are very good, and an affecting account is given of the 'dull madness' of poor Collins. The volume is beautifully printed, and the whole series will form an excellent edition of the British classic poets.

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Illustrations of Ancient Art, selected from the Objects discovered at Pompeii and Herculaneum.
By the Rev. Edward Trollope, F.S.A. George Bell.

In this volume are given illustrations of arms, armour, furniture, and other objects found at Pompeii, throwing light on the life and manners of the Romans. It is interesting as supplying materials for historical study, as well as of artistic illustration. The subjects are judiciously selected, and the plates executed in a very superior manner. There are forty-four plates, each containing several illustrations. Some of the choicest specimens of ancient art are delineated, among which are the Auldjo vase and the Naples vase, beautifully represented in coloured plates. The volume will be equally prized by scholars and artists.

SUMMARY.

As important contribution to medical literature, on a subject of general interest, is a volume containing the *Reports on Epidemic Cholera*, drawn up by desire of the Royal College of Physicians, by William Baly, M.D., and William W. Gull, M.D. (Churchill). Dr. Baly's report is on the cause and mode of diffusion of the disease, and Dr. Gull's on the methods of treatment. The former contains many valuable facts bearing on the sanitary and social condition of the country, deserving attention on other grounds than the diffusion of this particular epidemic. Dr. Gull gives a systematic notice of the various modes of treatment, with practical comments and useful suggestions. There are few subjects connected with this mysterious disease that are not fully discussed in these able reports.

Of the *Elements of Natural Philosophy* (Churchill), by Golding Bird, M.D., F.R.S., and Charles Brooke, F.R.S., a new edition, the fourth, is published, revised and greatly enlarged, forming a valuable introductory manual to the study of the physical sciences. A new edition also appears of *The Book of Nature*, by Dr. Friedrich Schöedler, Ph.D., Professor of the Natural Sciences at Worms, translated from the sixth German edition, by Henry Medlock, lecturer on Chemistry (Griffin and Co.). Dr. Schöedler's book is an excellent elementary introduction to the science of physics, astronomy, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, botany, zoology, and physiology. The numerous wood engravings increase the value and attractiveness of the work, which is one of the best popular textbooks on the study of nature that we are acquainted with, for educational uses.

In Bohn's 'Library of British Classics' the second volume is published of *Gibbon's Rome*, with variorum notes and illustrations by the editor, whose designation as 'an English Churchman' appears, we suppose, as a kind of guarantee for the soundness of his principles, similar to what we lately observed in a work issued by another publishing house, 'Selections from Byron, by a Clergyman.' These vague vouchers are a form of appeal to popular prejudice scarcely consistent with the dignity of literature.

In the 'Standard Library' the last volume contains the story of *The Carafas of Maddaloni*; or, *Naples under Spanish Dominion*, translated from the German of Alfred de Reumont (H. G. Bohn.) In the account of the vicissitudes of this Neapolitan family the history of Naples, during a period not very generally known, is skilfully narrated. To the stirring events of Massaniello's insurrection, and other remarkable episodes of the Spanish dominion, separate chapters are devoted. Of Neapolitan art and artists, many interesting facts are related, and other incidental subjects are well introduced in the narrative. The author's political tenets are somewhat illiberal, but this the English reader will readily discover for himself. The servile submission of the Neapolitan populace, of the lowest grades, arises not from any "respect for law, as opposed to rebellion," as the author suggests, but because their vices are fostered, and their services secured, by corrupt courts and despot rulers, for the repression of the better classes

who seek constitutional government. The historical facts of M. de Reumont are compiled with diligence and narrated with spirit, and the English translation seems to be made with ability and care. The whole history of Naples under the Spaniards is full of strange incidents and wild tragedies, fit themes for romancers and dramatists; and the facts selected by M. de Reumont give a striking picture of the state of the country during that period.

In the 'Illustrated Library' (Bohn) a new edition of *Wright's Translation of Dante's Divine Commedia* appears, illustrated with steel engravings, after Flaxman's designs. In this edition Mr. Wright has made some improvements, and has prefixed an introductory essay, in which the spirit and scope of the poem are explained, with elucidations from Dante's prose writings. The notes of the previous editions are condensed and printed now as foot-notes on each page. This illustrated edition of Wright's translation of Dante is probably the best form in which the great poet can first be introduced to ordinary English readers, who wish merely to know the subjects of the poem, without aspiring to the enjoyment of the marvellous style of the original.

In the 'Traveller's Library' (Longman and Co.), numbers fifty-five and fifty-six contain *Adventures in the Wilds of North America*, by Charles Landman, edited by Charles Richard Weld. These sketches of personal adventure have partly appeared in American periodicals, and have attracted much notice. Among other gratifying testimonies, Washington Irving has given them his warmest commendation, and approved of their publication in a collected form. The descriptions of North American scenery in its wildest forms, and of the life of the people of the remote mountains, plains, and forests, are full of romantic interest. Higher praise of the literary merit of the book cannot be given than in the words of Washington Irving, who thus writes to the author, "You seem to have the happy enjoyable humour of old Isaac Walton, and I trust you will give us still further scenes and adventures on our great internal waters, depicted with the freshness and skill of your present volumes." Mr. Weld has selected some of the most interesting of Mr. Landman's descriptive and narrative sketches. By the same publishers (Longman and Co.), the first part is issued of the *People's Edition of Macaulay's Critical and Historical Essays*, to appear in monthly shilling numbers. This part contains the Essays on Milton, Machiavelli, Hallam's Constitutional History, Southey's Colloquies, and part of the critique on Robert Montgomery's poems. A metaphysico-theological treatise, *The Sensibility of Separate Souls considered*, by Caleb Webb (Houlston and Stoneman), contains matter of curious speculation. Most of the passages in Scripture bearing on the subject are fully discussed by the author. A volume of sermons on Popery, by John Hampden Gurney, M.A., Rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, is published under the title of *The Grand Romish Fallacy, and Dangers and Duties of Protestants* (Seeleys). One of the sermons in the volume was preached on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Bible Society, and gives an interesting historical sketch of the proceedings of the Society and the results of its labours. Mr. Gurney need not have spoken apologetically of the strain of this discourse, as being somewhat alien from the usual style of sermons. It would be well if preachers of Mr. Gurney's position and ability more frequently departed from the dull formalities of pulpit routine in England, and directed the attention of their people to topics of the time, with some variety of illustration and directness of application. Among educational works recently published, we may mention *Conversations on Geography*, or the child's first introduction to what he is, where he is, and what else there is besides, by Viscountess Falmouth, Baroness le Despencer (Longman and Co.) This manual, drawn up by the noble and accomplished authoress for the use of her own children, is admirably adapted for family use. It contains much useful information, and is written in a very pleasing style, nor are moral lessons forgotten in

imparting mental instruction. A little treatise on *The Early Education of Children*, by Mrs. Hutchinson (Darton and Co.), points out in a sensible manner the effects of home influence on the work of a teacher, and deserves the attention of parents and guardians of the young. *The First Book of Euclid explained to Beginners*, by C. P. Mason, B.A., Fellow of University College, London (Walton and Maberly), attempts to impart an intelligent knowledge of the rudiments of geometry, instead of the too common system of their being learned by rote, as an exercise merely of memory without intelligent knowledge. *First Italian Course*, a practical and easy method of learning the elements of the Italian language, by W. Brownrigg Smith, M.A., one of the classical masters of the City of London School (Walton and Maberly), is edited from a German work by Filippi after the method of Dr. Ahn, with modifications adapted to the wants of English pupils. The plan is simple, and seems well suited for the object in view.

On the disputed questions connected with the late Sir Charles Napier's resignation of his Indian command, some light is thrown by the publication of the *Minutes by P.M. the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Dalhousie, Sir Charles Napier, and others* (Murray). The perusal of these documents has not altered our conviction that Sir Charles Napier was unjustly and ungenerously treated by the officials of the East India Company, who were resolved, before he went out to India, to thwart his proceedings and control his authority in a way which a soldier of his independent spirit could never submit to. In the particular matter of the mutinous feeling in the Indian army, the Duke of Wellington in his minute, founded on the partial representations submitted to him, approved of the conduct of the Governor-General; but the Duke was not infallible, and he could not be aware of the continuous and systematic annoyance to which the Commander-in-Chief was exposed in order to induce his resignation. All Indians not under the influence of the Court of Directors maintain that Sir Charles Napier was ill-used. His appointment was sanctioned by the Court of Directors with very bad grace, and only in deference to the loudly expressed demand of the nation, at a crisis of great peril, with the intention of getting rid of him at the earliest opportunity. Lord Dalhousie's lending himself to this unworthy intrigue will be recorded in history as the chief blot on his otherwise dignified and able government of India.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Alison's Europe, People's Edition, Vol. 4, crown 8vo, 4s.
Archbold's Justice of the Peace, Vols. 1 and 2, 12mo, £1 18s.
Bell's English Poets, Vol. 3, Dryden, 12mo, 2s. 6d.
Boat and Caravan, 6th edition, 12mo, cloth, 7s.
Bohn's Antiquarian Library: Abbey of Croyland, post 8vo, 5s.
— Classical Library: Athenæus, Vols. 2 and 3, 8s. each.
— Illustrated Library: British Birds, 2 vols, post 8vo, 5s.
— Standard Library: Cowper's Complete Works, 3s. 6d.
— British Classics: Addison's Works, Vol. 2, 3s. 6d.
Boot and Shoemaker's Assistant, 4to, cloth, £1 1s.
Bridgman's (Eliza) Daughters of China, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Burke's Peerage, 1854, royal 8vo, cloth, £1 18s.
Davis's (A.) Evenings in My Tent, 2 vols, post 8vo, £1 4s.
D'Arbly's (Madame) Diary, &c., new edition, Vol. 1, 3s.
Fleming's (Rev. F.) Kaffraria, 2nd edition, crown 8vo, 6s.
Gell's Revelation of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 vols., £1.
Gerstaecker's Travels, Vol. 1, 8vo, cloth, 5s.
Green's (M. E.) Lives of the Princesses, Vol. 5, p.8vo, 10s. 6d.
Hawthornth's (J.) Glorious Gospel, 12mo, cloth, 6s.
Heart's Ease; or, Grammar in Verse, 12mo, cloth, 2s.
Hood's (E. P.) Swedenborg, 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Johnson's (W.) Practical Druggist, 4to, cloth, £1 8s. 6d.
Lagney's (G. de) The Knout and the Russians, post 8vo, 4s. 6d.
Living to Christ; A Mother's Memorial, &c., 12mo, 1s. 6d.
Longfellow's Poems, illustrated, 18mo, cloth, gilt, 3s. 6d.
Low's Charities, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
MacDermott's (W. C.) History of Rome, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Madden's Life of Savonarola, new edition, 2 vols., £1 8s.
Morris's History of British Birds, Vol. 3, royal 8vo, 17s.
Murray's British Classics: Gibbon's Roman Empire, 7s. 6d.
National Illustrated Library, Vol. 37: Johnson's Poems, 2s. 6d.
Naturalist (The), Vol. 3, royal 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Old German Theology, translated by Mrs. Malcolm, 12mo, 5s.
Pepys' Diary, new edition, 4 vols., 8vo, cloth, £2 2s.
Poor Paddy's Cabin, 2nd edition, 6ap, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Progress and Prejudice; A Novel, by Mrs. Gore, £1 11s. 6d.
Robinson Crusoe, royal 32mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Senior's Political Economy, 3rd edition, post 8vo, cloth, 4s.
Schöedler and Medlock's Elements of Zoology, &c., 2nd ed., 2s.
Smee's (A.) Eye in Health and Disease, 2nd edition, 8vo, 5s.
Smyth's (W. H.) Mediterranean, 8vo, cloth, 15s.

Songs from the Home Lyre, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
 Southey's Life of Nelson, illustrated, post 8vo, cloth, 6s.
 Standard Novels, Rosalind and Felicia Leycester, 3s. 6d.
 Strickland's Queens of England, Vol. 3, post 8vo, 7s. 6d.
 Thiers' History of the French Revolution, Vol. 3, post 8vo, 6s.
 Ward's Hester Fleming, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Wilberforce on the Eucharist, 3rd edition, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Wood's (Rev. C.) Reminiscences of Winchester, 4to, 10s. 6d.
 World (The) and How to Square it, by Harry Hieover, 5s.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND MR. CROKER.

On the questions at issue in the correspondence between Mr. Croker and Lord John Russell, in relation to 'Moore's Memoirs,' we have already expressed our opinion. Some additional letters have since appeared in *The Times*, and Mr. Croker has published the whole correspondence, along with an explanatory statement, which displays still further the duplicity and meanness of the poet, and the indiscretion of his noble friend. The facts of the case are briefly these. In the sixth volume of 'Moore's Memoirs,' under date April 7, 1833, there is an entry in the Diary—"Barnes (then editor of *The Times*) begged me in anything I might now write for him, to spare Croker, which I told him was an unnecessary caution, as Croker and I were old allies." To which Lord John Russell appends the following note:—

"To Moore it was unnecessary to address a request to spare a friend. If the request had been addressed to the other party, asking him to spare Moore, what would have been the result? Probably, while Moore was alive, and able to wield his pen, it might have been successful. Had Moore been dead, it would have served only to give additional zest to the pleasure of safe malignity."

Mr. Croker was naturally indignant at this interpolation, the more so as in the whole of the six volumes his name is never mentioned by Moore but in the most friendly terms. Lord John has been provokingly sparing of his notes and comments, but here he volunteers a needless passage for the sake of indulging in what appears very like the spirit of political and personal animosity. Being called on for explanation, Lord John states that the note was written in consequence of Mr. Croker's article in the 'Quarterly Review.' This letter, and Mr. Croker's reply, we may as well quote entire, as they are interesting documents not only as illustrative of character, but as involving principles connected with the ethics as well as the etiquette of literature:—

"Chesham Place, Jan. 27, 1854.

"Sir,—The note to which you refer in your letter of yesterday's date was written on the supposition that you are the author of an article on Moore in the 'Quarterly Review.'"

"I cannot think that the passage you mention in Moore's 'Diary,' vol. iii., p. 156, affords any justification of that article. The case is this:—

"Mr. Moore dies, leaving his widow nearly unprovided for, but intrusting to my care some manuscript volumes which he thought might furnish the means for her subsistence and comfort.

"Seeing her broken health and shattered spirits, I judged it necessary for her comfort that she should remain in her cottage, and continue in her accustomed way of life.

"I endeavoured, in publishing the 'Diary,' to omit passages offensive to individuals. I omitted some regarding you, which, though not bitter or malicious, might, I thought, give you pain. There was one in which he said he found you less clever and more vain than he expected, or had supposed. This I allowed to stand.

"As one of the public men of the day you are accustomed to write most severely of others. To escape all criticism on yourself seems an immunity hardly to be expected.

"But were you justified in embittering the last years of the widow of Moore, sneering at his domestic affections, and loading his memory with reproach, on account of the few depreciatory phrases to which you refer?

"Mrs. Moore, when she was told that you were the author of the article in the 'Quarterly,' would not believe it. She was deeply wounded

when she was assured it was so. She had considered you as the friend of her husband.

"In reply to a long and bitter attack, I wrote the note to which you refer. I have no further explanations to offer.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"J. RUSSELL.

"The Right Hon. J. W. Croker."

"West Molesey, Surrey, Jan. 28, 1854.

"My Lord,—Your Lordship's letter is not only no answer to mine, but it makes your case much worse than I had supposed it to be.

"You evade the point I put to you by starting two other topics extraneous to the real subject, and, I think, unfounded in fact.

"First, you assume that I, who am supposed 'to write most severely of others, have claimed immunity from all criticism on myself.' I have not been guilty of any such absurdity. I believe that few men have had during a long life more incessant proofs that I have no such convenient privilege. Such an idea I never uttered nor entertained. It would be not merely arrogance, but imbecility; and I trust this correspondence will convince your Lordship that I am not yet in my dotage.

"Your Lordship's second mistake is, that I allege the 'offensive' mention of me in vol. iii. p. 156, as a 'justification' of my article in the 'Quarterly Review' on your Lordship's publication. That article needs, in my opinion, no justification, at least to no one who has read your volumes; but, however that may be, I should certainly never have thought of one so flimsy and so mean. The passage itself was, though malevolently meant, so trivial in substance, and so like what I had often been controversially told, that it excited in me no other feeling than a slight surprise at its appearance under a date when I thought that Moore and I were on the most cordial terms: and I so little resented it, that my friends know that I endeavoured to excuse it as a hasty and accidental ebullition of temper, for which I suggested that there might be a motive not unamiable in itself, though unjust as to me; and I only produced it in my former letter, not as any complaint against Moore, but as a contradiction of your Lordship's assertion of Moore's undeviating kindness to his friends, and especially towards me. It was a fact, not a plea.

"This, and not the two imaginary topics you have now raised, is the real point of the case, and this only it was that 'forced me to conclude, either that you did not know what you had published, or that you had advanced a falsehood, knowing it to be one.'

"Your Lordship has not only not extricated yourself from that dilemma, but you have, as I set out by saying, made your case infinitely worse; for you now admit that the passage which I had referred to as contradicting your assertion was not the only one, there having been 'some others' so much more 'offensive,' that you thought proper to omit them. What! my Lord, you have ventured to contrast, what you indicate as my malignant ingratitude towards Moore, with his undeviating and kindly feelings towards me, while it turns out that you had before your eyes several instances of mentions of me still more offensive than the one which you had produced, and, after producing it, conveniently, or at least opportunely forgotten.

"There is another very serious consideration arising out of this surprising confession, which is, that for the purpose, I suppose, of attributing to yourself the *glorie* of a generous delicacy towards me, as well as others, you sacrifice not only your argument, but the character of your poor friend, by revealing, what I never suspected, that during the many years in which he was living on apparently the most friendly terms with me, and asking, and receiving, and acknowledging such good offices, both consultative and practical, as my poor judgment and interest were able to afford him, he was making entries in his 'Diary' concerning me so 'offensive' that even the political and partisan zeal of Lord John Russell shrank from reproducing them.

"I must be allowed to say, under such strange circumstances, that I reject your Lordship's in-

dulgence with contempt, and despise the menace, if it be meant for one, that you have such weapons in your sleeve; I not only dare you, but I condescend to entreat you to publish all about me that you may have suppressed. Let me know the full extent of your crooked indulgence, and of Moore's undeviating friendship. Let us have the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, while I am still living to avail myself of it. Let it not be said that 'poor dear Moore told such things of Croker that even Lord John Russell would not publish them.' I feel pretty confident that there will not be found any entry of Moore's derogatory of me against which I shall not be able to produce his own contemporaneous evidence of a contrary tendency.

"Your Lordship's letter introduces another subject, on which I am reluctant to say a word, and shall say no more than your Lordship forces from me,—I mean the pain that these discussions must give to an amiable lady, for whom I feel, without knowing her, and have always expressed, as much respect and sympathy as your Lordship professes, and more than you have shown in the indiscreet and heedless way in which you have so inextricably mixed up her name in almost every page of the discordant farrago that you have compiled from your friend's papers.

"The discretion allowed to an editor is never better employed than in keeping domestic life separate from what you yourself describe as the 'idle gossip and calumnies of the day,'—the squabbles of authorship, and the hot conflict of political parties. Your Lordship has not thought fit to do so, and of this gross and unfeeling neglect of your own editorial duty you now seek to throw the blame on those who venture to observe it, and to prove that Moore's ostentatious display of his domestic tastes was just as hollow as his professions of friendship or his parade of patriotism; and you will not even allow your interesting victim to escape from this by-battle which you have provoked with me, although one should have thought that she had as little to do with it as your Lordship's wife or mine; for you introduce her to tell me that, 'when she heard that I was the author of the article in the 'Quarterly Review,' she would not believe it; she thought I was the friend of her husband.'

"This crowns your Lordship's inconsistency, to use the gentlest term. I admit that Mrs. Moore had for thirty years good reason to believe me to be her husband's friend, but if she was aware of all those 'offensive passages,' which you now admit to exist in the 'Diary,' could she have supposed that he was mine?

"Your Lordship will naturally expect that I shall give publicity to this correspondence. If your Lordship has anything to add to it, I request that I may receive it here by noon on Monday.—I am, my Lord, your Lordship's humble servant,

"J. W. CROKER."

The letters which have subsequently appeared in 'The Times' do not add materially to the knowledge of the real merits of the case, and Lord John Russell cuts the correspondence short, by saying, that "it would, of course, be useless for us to attempt to persuade one another." To this Mr. Croker replies, "I had no motive and no intention to 'persuade' your Lordship to anything. I did not meddle with your opinions. I charged you with a gross and wilful offence against me. The public is now the judge whether I have proved my charge." To enable the public to form a right judgment, a postscript is published (Murray) explanatory of his acquaintance and correspondence with Moore, with a selection of extracts from letters of various dates, showing the warmth and continuity of Moore's expressions of friendship in his communications, while he was at the same time, according to Lord John Russell, recording in his 'Diary' reflections of an offensive kind. The following are specimens of the extracts from Moore's letters, now printed by Mr. Croker among the *pièces justificatives* appended to his correspondence with Lord John Russell. "I was not aware," Mr. Croker says, "till this discussion, arose how many of Moore's letters had happened to be pre-

served in the chaos of my papers, nor of their exact nature. They had been thrown aside, and never were looked at or thought of from their original dates—some above *forty*, and the most recent *five-and-twenty* years old. All I recollected was that they were frequent and friendly, but I confess that on searching for and reading them—which I have only done in consequence of Lord John Russell's publication—I am surprised to find how *decisively* at variance they are with the spirit of both Moore's and his Lordship's allusions to me."

Here is one of the earliest letters, in January, 1800:—

"Dear Croker,—I am delighted to find that your friendship is unchanged, and believe me, my gratitude is as warm as ever. I had intended writing to you to confess the theft of an idea from you, which I have committed, not, however, without acknowledgment. In translating the fragments of 'Anacreon,' I have adopted your idea of combining them, so as to form little odes of them. Will you forgive me for the plagiarism (*sic*)? I assure you I shall own the source whence I have drawn it."

In 1809, Mr. Croker was Secretary of the Admiralty, and Moore had got into some difficulty by the misconduct of his deputy in the Admiralty Court of Bermuda, when the following piece of business occurred, as narrated in this explanatory statement:—

"There had been at that time a coolness between us—a quarrel,' as Moore says, of his own making; I should rather have called it a 'distance' or 'estrangement'—but, whatever was its degree, it appears from the following letter that it did not prevent my feeling kindly towards my old friend, and offering him my good offices in this disagreeable affair:—

"Dublin, 11th December, 1809.

"Dear Croker,—I am sincerely rejoiced at the idea of our being friends again, and little expected that my office at Bermuda would produce me anything half so valuable as this opportunity of reconciliation which you have so liberally availed yourself of. I have long thought that *I was a fool to quarrel with you*, and by no means required your present conduct to convince me how much you are in every way superior to me. In warmth of feeling, however, I will not be outdone, and I assure you that it is with *all my heart and soul* that I enter into the renewal of our friendship."

"The rest of the letter relates to his Bermuda business, and suggests an arrangement for turning, with my assistance, 'the appointment to more account than I have ever been able to do hitherto. Would be possible, do you think, to procure the office for any unobjectionable person, who should make it *worth my while* to resign in his favour? If this were possible, it would materially serve me; and though I have no right, nor indeed much inclination, to ask a favour from any of your present colleagues, yet if *You* could manage this matter for me, I should feel it to be the act of a friend, and be made easy and comfortable in more ways than one by it."

"I have no copy of my answer. I dare say I was unwilling that even a copyist should see such a proposition; but it appears from Moore's reply that I endeavoured—by supposing that he meant an *exchange* and not a *sale* of offices—to shut my eyes to the real drift of a proposal so indecent to a person in my official situation. Moore, however, did not at all appreciate the indelicacy of his proposal, or the delicacy of my evasion. His reply was as follows:—

"Friday, 22nd December, 1809.

"My dear Croker,—I feel most gratefully the readiness with which you answered my letter, and should not write now to tease you with my importunities, but that you mistook a *little* the manner in which I wish you to assist me. I had by no means the audacity to expect to exchange my Bermuda appointment for another at home. What I wanted to know was simply this—whether if the deputy I should appoint would make it *worth my while* to resign in his favour (*i.e.* in plain place-men's language, would consent to purchase the

appointment), you could have interest enough to get him nominated my successor, as by that means I should get rid of the very troublesome medium of a deputation, and have a good large sum at once in my pocket, without waiting for the slow process of annual remittances, accounts, &c. I know this sounds very like one of those transactions which we patriots cry out against as unworthy of the great Russell and Algernon Sydney."

"I (no doubt for the reason already stated) find no copy of my answer to a proposal of which not even my 'Patriot' friend's droll abjuration of the 'Russells and Sydneys' could attenuate the indecorum and illegality; but I find its substance docketed on the back of the letter in three short words, '*cannot be done*.' This refusal was probably less crudely expressed; and it certainly created no visible breach of the renewed friendship, and a long subsequent series of Moore's letters now before me—some asking small favours—others advice—all in the most friendly, and even *flattering*, style (several of them and of my answers are noted in the 'Diary') attest the continuance and apparent cordiality of our intercourse to the last."

Mr. Croker then gives a series of extracts from Moore's letters to him, ranging from 1810 to 1829, uniformly expressing the most cordial friendship, whilst he was making entries in his Diaries which Lord John Russell says he has suppressed as being offensive. We give some of the last of these letters, with the accompanying comments of Mr. Croker:

"In June, 1828, I was admitted to the Privy Council. Moore thought he lost too much time in letting three weeks pass before he congratulated me on this honour:—

"Sloperton, 15th July, 1828.

"My dear Croker.—I have been longing for an opportunity to write your *new adjunct*, of which I wish you joy sincerely, and trust it will be followed by something still better."

"I hope you do not forget to keep a look out for me in your Bermuda quarter, &c."

"The sincerity of these congratulations may be judged by the obvious spirit exhibited in a note, written about the same time to Mr. Power, his music publisher, and which a gentleman who bought it at Mr. Power's sale has since sent to me. It is a curious *pendant* to the foregoing congratulation; the following is an exact copy:—

"24th June, 1828.

"My dear Sir,—Thinking you may want the 'Rose of the Desert,' I send it up by parcel, and shall enclose the 'Legends,' as I finish them, through the *Right Honourable* (V) Croker."—*Power Catalogue*, p. 89.

"This slight sneer—even if it were as innocent as the '*non equidem invidio, miror magis*,' of the shepherd in Virgil—would be rather misplaced on an occasion when he was making a convenience of his '*Right Honourable*!' friend; but when contrasted with his amiable impatience to congratulate me, and his hope that it may soon be followed by something better, it takes, I think, a less excusable character."

"On the 22nd September, 1829, his affectionate interest in my welfare breaks out again in a very marked way:—

"My dear Croker,—I am in dismay at the rumours in the newspapers of a prospect of your quitting the Admiralty. I dare say that you yourself would care little about it, but the public are not likely to be so *poco-curante*ish on the subject, and for myself, speaking personally and selfishly, I shall feel the loss of your good offices most grievously. I do not ask for secrets, but, if the matter is in a *tellable* state, pray set my mind at rest on the subject. I was in hopes that you would have been able, according to your kind promise, to arrange something for me in the shape of a deputy for my office, &c.—Ever yours truly,

"THOMAS MOORE."

"And finally the following letter of the 28th of July, 1829, shows that the same friendly disposition subsisted—at least, to all appearance—between us:—

"My dear Croker,—It is most kind of you to

take so much trouble about us, and I assure you Mrs. Moore feels it to be so as much as myself. I meant to have told you in my last note (but I believe did not) that her state of health at present puts it entirely out of her power to dine away from home, and the same cause prevents me from leaving her at night. She is, however, before long about to return into Wiltshire, when I shall be left in a state of bachelorship and vagabondage, and then if you will have me, I shall be most happy to come to you, and accept dinner and bed and all the other good things I am sure to find with you.—Yours very truly, "THOMAS MOORE."

"I have brought down these extracts from the more extensive correspondence of *twenty consecutive years* to the latest period at which any of those suppressions that Lord John Russell alludes to could have taken place, and all the subsequent, like all the preceding letters that I have been able to find, are just of the same familiar and friendly character. I have produced no more than was necessary to my own defence, and I think I may now venture to repeat my confidence that his Lordship 'cannot have found any passage derogatory to me of which I could not produce Moore's own contemporary evidence in a contrary direction."

"I must also repeat how very painful it has been to me to transcribe professions and compliments which I always felt to be excessive, and which, it now appears, were 'false and hollow;' but my readers will easily believe that even when they reached me fresh and fresh, any vanity I might otherwise have felt from them must have been a good deal moderated by observing that the most fulsome of them were always—but not always very adroitly—mixed up with appeals for my assent, or advice, or assistance towards objects of his own personal vanity or interest."

All this is a very melancholy exhibition of character, and while the worst feature in the affair is the duplicity of Moore, the indiscretion of the biographer and the severity of the reviewer also leave a most painful impression on the reader.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE Crystal Palace Company are progressing bravely with their great work. They have voted the raising of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds more money, making a million in all; they are letting their space fast at 7s. 6d. to 60s. a square foot; in one instance 500l. has been given for a plot of space 8 feet by 8; and they have given up the idea of erecting a monstrous organ, of which we some weeks since showed the absurdity. Seven industrial courts are to be erected under the superintendence of Messrs. Barry, Tite, Thomas, Stokes, Grace, Charpentier, and Semper, for the use of exhibitors; and the art and natural history works are proceeding with great rapidity and beauty under the guidance of Messrs. Layard, Owen Jones, and Digby Wyatt, and Professors Owen, Forbes, Latham, and Sir Joseph Paxton. The water-towers at each end of the building have not been found adequate for working the fountains, but twenty thousand pounds will soon set that right,—not soon enough, however, to exhibit the *jets d'eau* at the end of May, when the building is positively to be opened. The public is now excluded, and having a handsome balance at the bankers', the Crystal Palace Company may carry on their wonderful labours with dauntless energy. We wish we could say as much of the West End Crystal Palace Railway Company. A meeting of the shareholders the other day showed the arrangements for money-raising to be tolerably advanced, but the works have made little progress. Facility of access is an essential element in the success of the undertaking.

An address from the House of Commons, for a Royal Commission to inquire into the existing arrangements at the inns of court, for promoting the study of law and jurisprudence, will be hailed as an important step in the matter of legal education. The proposal was made by Mr. Napier, on Wednesday, and, being supported by some of the

most distinguished lawyers in the House, was unanimously agreed to. The present system has long been considered a disgrace to England. No course of education is prescribed, not even a formal examination is required, and the only qualification for admission to the English bar is the having consumed a certain number of dinners, at a fixed tariff of prices. "Any man," it was said in the House, "may become a barrister, who can eat, drink, and write his name; and the only learning absolutely necessary is that which may be acquired over a bottle of wine after dinner." The Law Amendment Society has long attempted to bring about a change in this system. Some years ago a proposal was made to establish a school of jurisprudence under the auspices of the Society, and Lords Denman, Brougham, and others, were inclined to support the scheme in the hopelessness of reform at the inns of court. But it is better that the old institutions, with their funds and their prestige, should be turned to profitable use, for which they were first founded. In no other country of western Europe is instruction in the principles of law deemed unnecessary for those who are to be practically engaged in the profession. At Edinburgh, Dublin, and in all the continental universities, the lectures on jurisprudence and the principles of law form part of the training of lawyers, and are attended by many others as a branch of liberal education. At Oxford the Vinerian endowment was intended for the same object, but, like other institutions at the universities, it has been turned into abuse and neglected. An able pamphlet, by Mr. Hooper, of the Inner Temple, a fellow of Oriel, addressed to the Rev. Dr. Hawkins, Provost of Oriel, (J. W. Parker and Son,) advocates the establishment of a school of jurisprudence at Oxford. This proposal is altogether distinct from that relating to the inns of court in London, and Mr. Hooper need not have put them in opposition to each other. Some knowledge of the principles of law, and of questions of social, legislative, constitutional, and international interest, might well form part of every Englishman's education at our universities. Those who wish to follow law as a profession might carry out their studies at the inns of court. The Vinerian foundation at Oxford at present supports two fellows and five scholars, involving occasional residence; and this nucleus of a school of jurisprudence might be turned to purposes of greater practical utility. But it would never do, as Mr. Hooper proposes, to substitute this for the inns of court. If greater prominence were given at Oxford to the study of jurisprudence and the principles of law, it would be a reform of national importance, far more than some of the changes of the academical constitution at present exciting so much attention.

Sir Charles Trevelyan has reprinted as a pamphlet (Longman and Co.) some papers originally published at Calcutta in 1834 and 1836, on the application of the Roman letters to the languages of Asia, a subject to which attention has lately been recalled by the conference held under the auspices of the Chevalier Bunsen. As to the advantages of the proposed system in general there is now no dispute, and the only difficulty is as to the details necessary for best carrying it into effect. The statements of Sir Charles Trevelyan afford satisfactory proofs and practical illustrations of the benefits that would result from the use of the Roman letters for the languages of the East; and there is no reason why it should not be adopted in regard to all countries. The subject is one not affecting the interests of literature alone, but fraught with most important consequences in connexion with the progress of knowledge, civilization, and religion throughout the world. By the use of a common written and printed character, intellectual intercourse would be facilitated, and many of the obstacles removed which now retard the diffusion of knowledge. We are glad to observe the enlightened interest taken in the question by Christian missionaries of all denominations, representatives of the leading societies being associated with the learned men at present directing their attention to this important subject.

Various new proposals have lately appeared on the subject of the decimal coinage, among which may be mentioned one by Mr. Davidson, town-clerk of Nairn, Scotland, who recommends that the present farthing should be retained, under the name of mil, for the standard, and to alter the pound so as to consist of 1000 instead of 960 mils, adding two new coins for account; thus,—£1, the integer, or prime, 1000 mils, or £1 0s. 10d.; the tenth, or dime, 100 mils, 2s. 1d.; the hundredth, or cent., 10 mils, 2½d.; and the thousandth part, or mil, ¼d. By this plan all the difficulties as to the alteration of the current copper coins would be avoided, including the chief part of the retail business of the country, but the objectionable part of the scheme lies in the proposed alteration of the pound as the integer, which would produce complication and trouble in the conversion of accounts. It is difficult to hit on any system equally convenient for the purposes of account, and of the common retail traffic of the country where no written arithmetic is required. A pamphlet has also been published by Mr. Frederic J. Minasi, advocating the retention of 'the poor man's penny,' the withdrawal of which would entail large loss to the working classes, who are likely to have to pay five mils for what they now give four. Some of Mr. Minasi's suggestions deserve attention, but his proposed new unit of 8s. 4d. is inadmissible. It is plain that a complete adoption of a strictly decimal coinage cannot be effected except gradually.

At a large meeting at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday evening, resolutions were passed condemnatory of the remaining taxes on knowledge—viz., the paper duty and the newspaper stamps. Mr. Ricardo, M.P., was in the chair, and the chief speakers were Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Cassell, proprietor of the 'Popular Educator,' Mr. Ingram, of the 'Illustrated News,' and Mr. Collett, Secretary of the Association. The arguments were of the same kind as those usually adduced on this subject, the substance of which we lately stated in noticing a meeting held at the Whittington Club. The duty on paper is certainly a heavy drawback on cheap literature, but whether this is on the whole a national calamity is open to question. Cheap literature is a tree of the knowledge of evil as well as good, and if the demand of the lowest classes, in the existing state of popular education, happen to be for mischievous publications, the present restriction may be a benefit to them rather than an injury. There is at least ground for argument on this side of the question. The newspaper duty is less defensible, especially since the recent difficulties experienced by the Government in carrying it into effect, and in the confused state of the law as to what is definable as news.

An interesting event in the progress of popular education occurred this week in the opening of a drawing-school, or 'school of design,' as it is the fashion to call it, in connexion with the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, the rector, presided on the occasion, and speeches were delivered by the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Cardwell, President of the Board of Trade, Lord Lyttelton, Mr. Redgrave, and other gentlemen. The cost of the school has been 500l., half of which was granted by the Education Committee of the Privy Council. By making instruction in drawing a portion of the ordinary education in parochial schools, more will be done for the general diffusion of taste and skill in art than by the establishment of separate schools of design. But these must be also provided, where facilities may be afforded for those whose genius or occupations lead them to require further instruction than is likely to be obtained in connexion with a parochial institution.

The old town wall of Edinburgh is an object of considerable interest with the citizens of the northern capital. It figures both in history and romance. Part of it, which still remains, was built to defend the city after the fatal field of Flodden; and few readers can forget Sir Walter Scott's memorable account of its gates being forced by the Porteous mob. Last week a large portion at Leith Wynd gave way in consequence of the

swelling of inclosed earth, and proved fatal to three children, who were overwhelmed by the falling mass.

Mr. Pickering's private library is announced to be sold by Mr. Robinson, on Monday week and following days. It comprises a fine copy of 'Lodge's Portraits,' some drawings and paintings by Stothard, and is particularly rich in works on angling. It contains the first five and almost every other edition of Izaak Walton's 'Complete Angler,' and a collection of the works of all his favourite authors.

Norwich mourns the loss of another citizen of eminence and worth in the death of William Forster, a wealthy and benevolent member of the Society of Friends, and the contemporary and intimate friend of Elizabeth Fry, Sir Fowell Buxton, and Joseph John Gurney. Mr. Forster took a great interest in the negro emancipation question; and the last act of his life—a mission to the United States in furtherance of the objects of the abolition movement—proved that his attachment to the cause of freedom remained unabated. He was almost, if not altogether, unknown in the literary world; but we are justified nevertheless in paying this little tribute to his memory.

An Essex paper states that several London archaeologists and collectors of antiquities have recently been deceived, in the purchase of silver coins, bearing the resemblance of genuine British and early Saxon coins of Cunobeline and his epoch, and clever imitations of the late Roman denarii on one side, and Saxon on the other, which prove to be "counterfeit presentments" of the same. The vendors represent the coins to have been discovered at Colchester, but those sold are found to have been brought from Ipswich.

Among recent distinctions honourable to men whose names are known in science or literature, we have to report the election of Colonel Sykes as this year's Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, and the appointment recently of Mr. Phelan to the office of Pursuivant-at-arms.

A Latin manuscript by Leibnitz, refuting some of the opinions and reasonings of Spinoza, was some time ago found in the public library at Hanover; and a French translation of it has just been brought out at Paris. The great interest of the work consists in the proof it affords that the great German philosopher did not, as has been imagined, share the scepticism in religious matters of the learned Dutch Jew.

M. Moquin Tandon has been elected a Member of the Botanic Section of the Academy of Sciences at Paris, in the room of the late M. de Saint Hilaire.

A new oratorio, *Immanuel*, by Mr. Henry Leslie, was performed at St. Martin's Hall on Thursday evening. Of the leading features of the work we may afterwards give further notice, meanwhile reporting that the success of the first performance was complete, and that the merits of the composition were duly appreciated by the gratified audience. The oratorio is in two parts; the first, in a series of recitatives, airs, and choruses, descriptive of the state of the world before Immanuel's advent; and the second presenting some of the most striking incidents in the Saviour's life on earth. The general design of such a subject might have been carried out with more epic completeness and dramatic power, but Mr. Leslie has expressed the ideas selected by him with great force and variety of effect. The episode of the raising of the son of the widow of Nain occupies more than half of the second part, and the scenes of this event are represented by the composer with remarkable skill and taste. The mother's plaintive sorrow and imploring prayer were finely rendered in the contralto airs by Miss Dolby, the connecting passages being given in soprano and tenor recitatives by Mrs. Enderassohn and Mr. Locky; the youth's song, in a bass solo, by Mr. Weiss; with a concluding solo and chorus of joy by the widow and people. The choruses and the dramatic march are well introduced, and the whole episode is well managed. The Chorus of the Beatitudes

in the Sermon on the Mount is a finely-conceived and beautiful passage, simple in style and suited to the subject. Still more pleasing is the trio, by Mrs. Enderssohn, Miss Dolby, and Miss Amy Dolby, and the chorus, on the Blessing of the Children. There are several fine quartettes, the last of which comes in well between the soprano solo and the burst of the concluding Hosannah chorus. Some of the choruses in the first part are also very effective, especially that beginning, 'There is no hope; let us eat, drink, and be merry,' the instrumentation of which has been managed by the composer with great ability. This was among the passages unanimously encored. The oratorio had every advantage in its bringing out, the principal singers being those that have been named, and the band and chorus comprising many of the best professional performers and chorists in London, Mr. Benedict, conductor. At the close Mr. Leslie was called for, and was heartily congratulated on the success of a work which has truly great merit as a first effort in this high field of composition.

Our musical letter from Paris states that a good deal of disappointment had been occasioned by Meyerbeer's new opera, *L'Etoile du Nord*, having had to be suspended after the second representation, on account of the illness of Mlle. Duprez, who supports the principal character. This young lady, however, having recovered, the third performance took place on Wednesday—and it is to be hoped, both for the sake of the composer and the public, that the opera will now be able to run unchecked the career of triumphant success to which it is certainly destined. Such is the admiration it has thus far excited, that most of the places in the theatre have been let for the first twelve representations. French musical composers, we hear, are somewhat annoyed—notwithstanding all their respect for the genius of Meyerbeer—at seeing a foreigner gain a greater triumph than was ever witnessed, at least by the present generation, on the stage of the Opéra Comique, which they thought was peculiarly and almost exclusively French. They complain, too, we are told, that Meyerbeer has raised comic opera to a higher rank in the musical scale than it ever possessed before, and has thereby rendered it impossible for composers to satisfy the public with the light, airy, frivolous things which it has heretofore accepted as the very perfection of *le genre*. Our other musical news is not of striking importance. At the Opéra *Noise* has been brought out, but with only very moderate success: a M. Brignoli made his *débüt* in it, but failed to please, though he came supported by the applause of all Belgium, where he has been singing for the last year. At the Italian Theatre the ever delightful *Don Giovanni* has been revived, and as Mario and Alboni, and others of almost equal merit, figure in it, it has afforded great satisfaction, and seems likely to be the most money-making opera of the season. M. Boieldieu, son of the celebrated author of *La Dame Blanche*, has had represented a three-act opera, called *La Fille Invisible*, at the Théâtre Lyrique. It affords a new proof of the truth of the well-known assertion that genius is not hereditary. One or two of the airs, however, are pretty.

The theatrical week at Paris has seen the production of an excellent though very lugubrious little piece, in one act, by Madame de Girardin, called *La Joie fait peur*. A mother and her family believe that their son and brother, a dashing young naval officer, has been killed, in some distant island, by savages, reports to that effect having reached the Admiralty and been published in the newspapers; it turns out, however, that the young man is alive and well, and the whole interest of the drama turns on the manner in which the different members of the family receive the glad tidings, and on which their grief becomes turned into joy. It is one of that sort of pieces which require to be extremely well written to be worth anything, and extremely well acted to be appreciated. In both these respects the Parisian public has no reason for complaint.

At Drury Lane the performances are sustained

with great spirit, through the exertions of the popular company and the enterprising manager. Mr. Brooke has been astonishing crowded houses, by his representations of *Richard III.* and of the *Corsican Brothers*. The *mise en scène* of the latter, with the imposing tableaux and bustling incidents, is altogether very effective, and fully in keeping with Dumas' conception of this strange drama. Mr. Brooke certainly improves as an actor, and, while secure of popular applause, he seems to aim more at subduing extravagances which formerly provoked just censure. Some of the scenes in *Richard III.* are admirably represented, but the splendid style in which the play is put upon the stage of the Princess's Theatre puts Drury Lane at a disadvantage.

Mr. Nicholls appeared this week, at the Soho Theatre, in the character of *Hamlet*, and we are even more pleased with this than with his *Shylock*, in which he made his first *débüt*, last week, on the stage. As an elocutionist Mr. Nicholls has long been favourably known, and in transferring his talents to the stage, he will find a field for better displaying his genius and taste. What we chiefly admire in his acting is his freedom from routine conventionalities, by which stage effect is usually sought to be produced. With great correctness of elocution, and full conception of the creation of the poet, his representation of *Hamlet* was natural and effective. If sometimes there was lacking an energy and *abandon*, which the excitement of a large house and a little more experience are sure to supply, there were no tricks of art, and nothing in speech or action to make the judicious grieve, throughout the whole representation. An actor of greater promise, and better qualified for interpreting Shakespeare to the people, as scholars and men of taste would like to see it done, has not lately joined the dramatic profession.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—*March 2nd.*—Prof. Graham, V.P., in the chair. The names of thirty candidates for election into the Society were read. The following papers were read:—1. 'On the Decomposition of Sulphuric Acid by Pentachloride of Phosphorus.' 2. 'On the Growth of Land Shells.' By E. J. Lowe, Esq.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—*Jan. 20th.*—Right Hon. Baron Park in the chair. Professor Faraday, D.C.L., F.R.S., 'On Electric Induction—Associated cases of current and static effects.'—(Continued from last Week.) With these lights it is interesting to look at the measured velocities of electricity in wires of metal, as given by different experimenters.

	Miles per second.
Wheatstone in 1834, with copper wire made it	288,000
Walker in America with telegraph iron wire	18,780
O'Mitchell, ditto	28,524
Fizeau and Gonnelle (copper wire)	112,680
Ditto	62,900
A.B.G. (copper) London and Brussels Telegraph	2,700
Ditto (copper) London and Edinburgh Telegraph	7,900

Here the difference in copper is seen, by the first and fifth result, to be above a hundred-fold. It is further remarked, in Liebig's report of Fizeau's and Gonnelle's experiments, that the velocity is not proportional to the conductive capacity, and is independent of the thickness of the wire. All these circumstances and incompatibilities appear rapidly to vanish as we recognise and take into consideration the lateral induction of the wire carrying the current. If the velocity of a brief electric discharge is to be ascertained in a given length of wire, the simple circumstances of the latter being twined round a frame in small space, or spread through the air through a large space, or adhering to walls, or lying on the ground, will make a difference in the results. And in regard to long circuits such as those described, their conducting power cannot be understood, whilst no reference is made to their lateral static induction, or to the conditions of intensity and quantity which then come into play; especially in the case of short or intermitting cur-

rents—for then static and dynamic are continually passing into each other. It has already been said that the conducting power of the air and water wires are alike for a constant current. This is in perfect accordance with the principles and with the definite character of the electric force, whether in the static or current or transition state. When a voltaic current of a certain intensity is sent into a long water wire, connected at the further extremity with the earth, part of the force is in the first instance occupied in raising a lateral induction round the wire, ultimately equal in intensity at the near end to the intensity of the battery stream, and decreasing gradually to the earth end, where it becomes nothing. Whilst this induction is rising, that within the wire amongst its particles is beneath what it would otherwise be; but as soon as the first has attained its maximum state, then that in the wire becomes proportionate to the battery intensity, and therefore equals that in the air wire, in which the same state is (because of the absence of lateral induction) almost instantly attained. Then of course they discharge alike and therefore conduct alike. A striking proof of the variation of the conduction of a wire by variation of its lateral static induction is given in the experiment proposed 16 years ago (1833.) If, using a constant charged jar, the interval s , page 6, be adjusted so that the spark shall freely pass there (though it would not if a little wider), whilst the short connecting wires n and o are insulated in the air, the experiment may be repeated twenty times without a single failure; but if after that, n and o be connected with the inside and outside of an insulated Leyden jar, as described, the spark will never pass across s , but all the charge will go round the whole of the long wire. Why is this? The quantity of electricity is the same, the wire is the same, its resistance is the same, and that of the air remains unaltered; but because the intensity is lowered, through the lateral induction momentarily allowed, it is never enough to strike across the air at s ; and it is finally altogether occupied in the wire, which in a little longer time than before effects the whole discharge. M. Fizeau has applied the same expedient to the primary voltaic currents of Ruhmkorff's beautiful inducing apparatus with great advantage. He thereby reduces the intensity of these currents at the moment when it would be very disadvantageous, and gives us a striking instance of the advantage of viewing static and dynamic phenomena as the result of the same laws. Mr. Clark arranged a Bains' printing telegraph with three pens so that it gave beautiful illustrations and records of facts like those stated: the pens are iron wires, under which a band of paper imbued with ferro-prussiate of potassa passes at a regular rate by clock-work; and thus regular lines of prussian blue are produced whenever a current is transmitted, and the time of the current is recorded. In the case to be described, the three lines were side by side, and about 0.1 of an inch apart. The pen m belonged to a circuit of only a few feet of wire, and a separate battery; it told whenever the contact key was put down by the finger; the pen n was at the earth end of the long air wire, and the pen o at the earth end of the long subterranean wire; and by arrangement the key could be made to throw the electricity of the chief battery into either of these wires simultaneously with the passage of the short circuit current through pen m . When pens m and n were in action, the m record was a regular line of equal thickness, showing by its length the actual time during which the electricity flowed into the wires; and the n record was an equally regular line, parallel to, and of equal length with, the former, but the least degree behind it; thus indicating that the long air wire conveyed its electric current almost instantaneously to the further end. But when pens m and o were in action, the o line did not begin until some time after the m line, and it continued after the m line had ceased—i.e. after the o battery was cut off. Furthermore, it was faint at first, grew up to a maximum of intensity, continued at that as long as battery contact was continued, and then gradually diminished to nothing.

Thus the record *o* showed that the wave of power took time in the water wire to reach the further extremity; by its first faintness it showed that power was consumed in the exertion of lateral static induction along the wire; by the attainment of a maximum and after the equality it showed when this induction had become proportionate to the intensity of the battery current; by its beginning to diminish it showed when the battery current was cut off; and its prolongation and gradual diminution showed the time of the outflow of the static electricity laid up in the wire, and the consequent regular falling of the induction which had been as regularly raised. With the pens *m* and *o* the conversion of an intermitting into a continuous current could be beautifully shown; the earth wire, by the static induction which it permitted, acting in a manner analogous to the fly wheel of a steam engine, or the air spring of a pump. Thus, when the contact key was regularly but rapidly depressed and raised, the pen *m* made a series of short lines separated by intervals of equal length. After four or more of these had passed, then pen *o*, belonging to the subterraneous wire, began to make its mark, weak at first, then rising to a maximum, but always continuous. If the action of the contact key was less rapid, then alternate thickening and attenuations appeared in the *o* record; and if the introductions of the electric current at the one end of the earth wire were at still longer intervals, the records of action at the other end became entirely separated from each other. All showing most beautifully how the individual current or wave, once introduced into the wire, and never ceasing to go onward in its course, could be affected in its intensity, its time, and other circumstances, by its partial occupation in static induction. By other arrangements of the pens *n* and *o*, the near end of the subterraneous wire could be connected with the earth immediately after separation from the battery; and then the back flow of the electricity, and the time and manner thereof, were beautifully recorded. But I must refrain from detailing results which have already been described in principle. Many variations of these experiments have been made and may be devised. Thus the ends of the insulated battery have been attached to the ends of the long subterraneous wire, and then the two halves of the wire have given back opposite return currents when connected with the earth. In such a case the wire is positive and negative at the two extremities, being permanently sustained by its length and the battery in the same condition which is given to the short wire for a moment by the Leyden discharge p. 6; or, for an extreme but like case, to a filament of shell lac having its extremities charged positive and negative. Colomb pointed out the difference of long and short as to the insulating or conducting power of such filaments, and like difference occurs with long and short metal wires. The character of the phenomena described in this report induces me to refer to the terms *intensity* and *quantity* as applied to electricity—terms which I have had such frequent occasion to employ. These terms, or equivalents for them, cannot be dispensed with by those who study both the static and the dynamic relations of electricity; every current where there is resistance has the static element and induction involved in it, whilst every case of insulation has more or less of the dynamic element and conduction; and we have seen that with the same voltaic source, the same current in the same length of the same wire gives a different result as the intensity is made to vary, with variations of the induction around the wire. The idea of intensity or the power of overcoming resistance, is as necessary to that of electricity, either static or current, as the idea of pressure is to steam in a boiler, or to air passing through apertures or tubes: and we must have language competent to express these conditions and these ideas. Furthermore, I have never found either of these terms lead to any mistakes regarding electrical action, or give rise to any false view of the character of electricity or its unity. I cannot find other terms of equally useful significance with these; or any which, conveying the same ideas, are not liable to such misuse

as these may be subject to. It would be affectation, therefore, in me to search about for other words; and besides that, the present subject has shown me more than ever their great value and peculiar advantage in electrical language. The fuzee referred to in page 3 is of the following nature. Some copper wire was covered with sulphuretted gutta percha; after some months it was found that a film of sulphuret of copper was formed between the metal and the envelope; and further, that when half the gutta percha was cut away in any place, and then the copper wire removed for about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch, so as to remain connected only by the film of sulphuret adhering to the remaining gutta percha, an intensity battery could cause this sulphuret to enter into vivid ignition, and fire gunpowder with the utmost ease. The experiment was shown in the Lecture-room, of firing gunpowder at the end of eight miles of single wire. Mr. Faraday reported that he had seen it fired through 100 miles of covered wire immersed in the canal by the use of this fuzee.

LINNEAN. — Feb. 21st. — Thomas Bell, Esq., President, in the chair. Mr. Joseph Robson was elected an Associate. Among the presents on the table were specimens of *Ophioglossum lusitanicum*, L., from the Island of Guernsey, presented by G. Wolsey, Esq.; and dried specimens of plants, principally ferns, from the neighbourhood of Moreton Bay, presented by Robert Wakefield, Esq., F.L.S. S. Stephens, Esq., F.L.S., exhibited *Morpho-cypria*, Weston, a very rare and beautiful butterfly from New Granada. Adam White, Esq., F.L.S., exhibited a few of the more remarkable Lamellicorn and Longicorn beetles, collected by Dr. Hooker on the Sikkim-Himalaya and Khasia Hills, and made some observations on them. Among the Lamellicorns he noticed a new slender-limbed species of *Trigonophorus*, with red legs (*T. Hookeri*); of the Longicorns, three or four fine *Monochami*, a blue *Distexia*, and others were pointed out. He alluded to the labours of scientific men particularly devoted to botanical pursuits, who had made, like Dr. Hooker, large additions to our knowledge of insects, *e.g.*, Mr. Fortune, Mr. Cumming, and others. He referred to the female of *Dicranoccephalus Wallichii*, lately sent by Mr. F. from Shanghai, and some splendid *Carabi* from the same locality. The papers read were, 1st, 'Notes on some Ferns in the Wallichian Herbarium,' by Thomas Moore, Esq., F.L.S. The plants particularly referred to were the *Prionopteris Farquhariana* (Wall. Cat. 184), *Spheropteris Hookeriana* (Wall. Cat. 775), and *Davallia stipellata* (Wall. Cat. 260). The first of these, which appeared to be unknown both to Presl and Fée, was stated to be the *Matonia pectinata*, R. Br. in Wall. Pl. Asiatic. Rar.; which name, according to the usual precedence accorded to the Wallichian names, must give way to *Prionopteris*. *Spheropteris Hookeriana* was stated to be the *Dicalpe aspidioides*, Blume, distinguishable from *Spheropteris* by its sessile, not stipulate, sori. The species would therefore be *Dicalpe Hookeriana*, restoring the older Wallichian name. *Davallia stipellata* was identified with the *Acrophorus nodosus*, Presl, and doubtfully with the *Monachosorum davallioides*, Kreuze. This fern the author referred rather to the *Aspidium* than to the *Davallia*, placing it with *Cyrtopteris* in a subsection of the former, which through the connecting link with the latter through the genus *Microlepia*. The genus *Acrophorus* was stated to be too near *Leucostegia* to be kept separate, and the author therefore proposed to unite them under the name of *Acrophorus*, of which the following species were enumerated:—*Ac. stipellatus* (A. nodosus, Presl); *A. immersus* (*Leucostegia*, Presl); *A. charophyllus* (*Davallia*, Wallich); *D. pulchra*, (Don.); *A. membranulosus* (*Davallia*, Wallich); *A. affinis*, (*Leucostegia*, I. Sm.); *A. hispidus* (*Davallia*, Heward); *A. parvulus* (*Davallia*, Wall.); and *A. jamaicensis* (*Davallia*, Hooker). Read, 2dly, a 'Note on the genus *Ancistrocladus* of Wallich, by G. H. K. Thwaites, Esq. The author had been induced to offer to the Society some observations on this

genus, from having recently had opportunities of examining the flowers and fruit of *A. Vahlia* in various stages of development; and having thus been enabled, as he conceives, to arrive at a more correct knowledge of their structure than appears to have been within the reach of those botanists who have hitherto described species of that genus. Owing apparently to the fruit of *Ancistrocladus* being surmounted by the enlarged segments of the calyx, the genus has been placed by different botanists in the several families of *Combretaceae*, *Malpighiaceae*, and *Dipteraceae*; from all which, however, it differs in its seeds being albuminous. In the opinion of Mr. Thwaites, the family with which it would best associate is the *Symplocaceae*, agreeing with them in its undivided, extipulate leaves, the character of its inflorescence, imbricated calyx and corolla, inferior ovary, albuminous seeds, and sub-cylindrical embryo. It differs from them, however, in its scandent habit, its calycine segments becoming enlarged, its solitary erect ovule, and the peculiar structure of its cerebiform albumen. With *Myristicaceae* and *Anonaceae* *Ancistrocladus* would seem to have some slight affinity, the young ovule and embryo recalling to mind those of *Myristica*; whilst the scandent habit and uncinate branchlets give it considerable resemblance to the *Anonaceae* genus *Avatobrys*. The *Ancistrocladus Vahlia*, W. Arn., is very abundant in some of the warmer districts of Ceylon, and owing to its spreading so much by its roots, is a very troublesome weed to the cultivator.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. — Feb. 3rd. — The Hon. Richard C. Neville, V.P., in the chair. A communication was read, regarding discoveries of sepulchral urns by Mr. Richardson Smith in the county Carlow. They presented decorations of very elaborate character, and surpass in perfection of workmanship all primeval vases hitherto found in the British Islands. Some curious particulars were given, in illustration of the superstition of the Irish peasantry regarding the most ancient places of burial. Mr. J. Rogers gave an account of certain remarkable features of ecclesiastical architecture in Cornwall, and produced drawings, with certain curious details, of the kind usually designated as Lychoscopes, in the churches of Mawgan, Grade, Cury, and other parishes near the Lizard Point. Mr. O'Neill produced a collection of fac-similes from sculptured crosses in Ireland. The richly wrought and peculiar ornamentation of these remarkable monuments, as also their colossal dimensions, attracted the attention of many visitors of Ireland during the last summer, and much curiosity was excited by the casts from some of the best examples, which were executed for the Dublin Industrial Exhibition, and are now placed in the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. Mr. O'Neill explained the peculiarities of the sculptured ornamentation; he stated that another portion of his fine work on these singular Christian memorials is ready for publication. In the conversation which ensued Mr. Westwood made some valuable remarks on the origin of the style which appears in early sculptures in Ireland, as also in works in metal, and in illuminated manuscripts. Some absurd theories had been proposed, tracing these designs to Italy or more remote foreign lands; and one of the latest writers on the subject had asserted that no Irishman could have produced such works, which must be regarded as of Italian origin, a supposition which Mr. Westwood regarded as unworthy of attention. He stated, as worthy of note, that all these sculptures are executed in granite and materials obtained in Ireland. Mr. Westwood observed that the examination of these curious sculptures may lead to a very interesting question. The character of the reliefs, as well as the style of ornament, shows many points of difference when compared with the Italian types of the same date. But the style of ornament has enough in common with some of the early forms of art found in the East, to make it worth inquiry whether these sculptured crosses may not have been executed under the influence of taste in some manner derived from

thence. Among the reasons which might corroborate this speculation, Mr. Westmacott adverted to the stiff and ugly forms of the human figure whenever it occurs. He observed that the art-representation of sacred persons had been in early times a subject of much discussion, and that in the Eastern Church the rule had obtained that the Saviour should not be represented under a form of beauty, but with a repulsive character—a strange notion, to be traced to the passage in Isaiah which declares, "There is no beauty that we should desire him." By some of the Eastern sects and their schools of art this idea was strongly asserted. In the Western Church happily a different view had been taken, and it was argued that no beauty could be too great to represent the Saviour. The influence of Pope Adrian I., supported by the authority of St. Ambrose, went far to establish this opinion. Mr. Westmacott said that these considerations might incline the antiquary to seek an Eastern origin for the strange designs presented by the Irish crosses; he thought, however, that many of the tortuous and distorted forms which occur on them may be only the efforts of caprice or ingenuity in the attempt to fill the contracted spaces formed by the numerous subdivisions of these works. Mr. Ashurst Majendie brought a series of drawings of the tombs of the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, preserved at Earl's Colne, Essex, and offered some remarks on recent discoveries at Hedingham Castle. Mr. G. Vulliamy produced a pair of "mails" for playing at the game of Pall Mall, as also one of the wooden balls used for that favourite amusement of the seventeenth century. These objects had been found lately in the house of the late Mr. Vulliamy in Pall Mall, and are probably the only existing relics of the kind. The mail or mail consisted of a long handled hammer of wood bound with iron, the handle being very elastic: the game was probably of French origin, and introduced into England in the reign of James I. During the Commonwealth it probably fell into disuse, and the alley where it was practised, the site of the present Pall Mall, became occupied by dwellings. At the Restoration a new Mall was made in the Park, by direction of Charles II., who was remarkably fond of the game. Many curious particulars are related by Pepys, illustrative of this scene of the disports of the merry monarch. Mr. Desborough Bedford brought several gold coins lately found in Tothill-street, in the ancient inn formerly known as the Cock and Tabard. Mr. Neville exhibited a singular Roman ring found very recently in the course of his excavations at Chesterford, and bearing an ornament in relief, chased in gold, of very curious design. Mr. Du Noyer sent representations of remarkable designs of Irish art, comprising a series of the Emblems of the Passions. Mr. Le Keux exhibited a carefully detailed drawing of the Norman Tower at St. Augustine's, Canterbury, taken in 1814; the greater portion has since perished, and there appears to be no correct engraving of this fine architectural example.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Feb. 15th.—Henry Cole, Esq., C.B., in the chair. The paper read was on 'Ancient and Modern Metal Working and Ornamentation, with some allusion to the newly discovered Art of Nature-Printing,' by Mr. W. C. Aitken, of Birmingham. After a few remarks on the subject of ornament on metal work generally, and on the objections made to certain kinds of ornamentation in which mechanism had taken the place of hand labour, a description was given of the method adopted for producing a large bronze statue, as well as for small castings, such as statuettes, &c. Reference was then made to the beaten work of the ancients and medievalists, which was somewhat akin to the modern process of stamping, except that in the latter the falling below of the stamp hammer, on which the die was fastened, took the place of the hand hammer. A short account was next given of the modern art of electro-metallurgy, which admitted alike the creation of new and the reproduction of old works of art at a comparatively small cost. Ornamentation by means

of engraving was considered to be an expensive process, and on this account attempts had been made from time to time to supersede it, and also the cheaper substitute of chasing. Attention was then directed to a process which had been recently introduced, the practical application of which was due to Mr. R. S. Sturges, who held the patent jointly with Mr. R. W. Winfield. The fact of a soft material imprinting on a harder one an impress of its form had long been understood. In the early stages of this invention, it was imagined the harder material out of which the design was made the better for the purpose. Keeping this, their imagined requisite, in view, the first ornament imprinted was made out of steel wire, formed into shape, and afterwards tempered, but the result was remarkably indefinite and unsatisfactory. Ordinary thread lace was then suggested, and tried with success; it was found that it would sustain a pressure of not less than ten tons, and come out from such a pressure comparatively uninjured, leaving its impress even on so soft a substance as Britannia metal. Subsequently it was found that the same result was produced on copper, on the compound metal brass, on German silver, on iron and tin plate, and on what is generally believed to be the hardest metal—steel. It should be stated that the device, whatever that may be, either in perforated paper, thread lace, or other media, is placed between two sheets of metal, and the whole is then passed through metal rolls. The author then referred to the art of nature-printing, for which the Austrians had preferred a claim, remarking that the English patent for the ornamentation of metals, which was precisely similar so far as the means employed, was taken out on the 24th January, 1852. He explained that some time back he had himself taken impression of a leaf, a flower, and a feather in Britannia or other metal, from which he had printed direct, except that in some cases he had made a transfer to a lithographic stone, and had multiplied copies by the ordinary process of lithography.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Feb. 6th.—E. Newman, Esq., F.L.S., President, in the chair. G. Brownell, Esq., J. M. Savage, Esq., F. P. Pascoe, Esq., and J. Birt, Esq., were elected members; and Mr. J. R. S. Clifford was elected a subscriber. The Secretary announced that the Council had determined to renew the offer made last year, but which had not been competed for, of a prize of five guineas for the best essay on the natural history of the 'Scale Insect,' injurious to British fruit trees, especially that of the apple, which should be received by the 31st December next; and, further, that a similar prize would be given for the best essay on the natural history of the coccus producing the 'lac dye' of commerce, which should be sent in by 31st December, 1855. He added that Dr. Royle had kindly promised to place at the service of any one who might require it the information on this subject in the possession of the East India Company, or any other that the resources of that Company in India could procure. Mr. E. L. Layard exhibited a large collection of *Lepidoptera*, in very fine condition, formed by him during a residence of several years in Ceylon. The President exhibited a new species of *Saccophrao*, which he proposed to call *Batesi*, in honour of Mr. Bates, the most indefatigable collector of the insects of the Amazon, by whom this species had been reared from its 'Sackträger' larva. Mr. Douglas exhibited a *Phigalia pilosaria*, captured by him late on the night of 21st January, sitting on a street lamp at Lee. The appearance of this moth so early in the season was more remarkable, on account of the previous severe weather, extending to within a fortnight of its attaining the perfect state. Mr. Stevens exhibited a specimen of *Argynnis paphia* and one of *A. Euphrosyne*, both being remarkable variations from the usual colour and marking; also *Elater impressus*, Fab. from Perthshire, now first discovered in Britain. Mr. Curtis read a paper, entitled 'Critical Remarks upon the British *Elateridae*, with Descriptions of some of the Species.' Mr. Waterhouse said that, in a recent inspection of the Rev. Mr. Hope's collection at

Oxford, he was convinced the typical specimens of *Polyphrades cinereus* and *Cherrus nanus*, Schönherr, were not only not of different genera, but were one species, and this opinion had been confirmed by M. Henri Jekel, whose knowledge of the *Curculionidae* rendered him an authority.

NUMISMATIC.—Feb. 23rd.—Dr. Lee, LL.D., in the chair. Mr. Vaux read a paper communicated by G. Sparkes, Esq., 'On some Gold Coins of Syracuse.' The object of Mr. Sparkes' paper was to call attention to the small gold coins which bear on the obverse the head of Hercules, and on the reverse a female head in a circle (which is itself enclosed in an indebted square), and which exhibits on both sides the legend ΣΥΡΑ, which coins Mr. Sparkes believes to have been the earliest gold struck by Syracuse, arguing from the occurrence of the same type upon the reverses of the gold, which is found on that of the oldest silver specimens of the Syracuse mint. The date of these gold coins Mr. Sparkes infers must have been between B.C. 405 and B.C. 390, because the initial letters of the names of two engravers, which are found at length on the silver medallions of that time, have been met with on other and larger gold pieces, which are (it may be presumed from both type and fabric) synchronous with these smaller ones. It is, indeed, natural to suppose that the period when Dionysius had enriched Syracuse with the plunder of Naxos and other important cities, should have been the time for the issue of the first gold coinage. Mr. Sparkes then discussed the intricate question of the weight of these small coins, stating it to be his belief that when the gold was first coined, the object was to make it correspond with the silver in value rather than in weight; and that, assuming (which there are good grounds for) the ratio of gold to silver to have been as eleven to one, each gold coin would have been just equal in value to three of the silver drachmas. G. P. Joyce, Esq., was elected a Member of the Society.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Royal Academy, 8 p.m.—(Sir Richard Westmacott on Sculpture.)
 — Entomological, 8 p.m.
 — British Architects, 8 p.m.
 — Chemical, 8 p.m.
 — Royal Institution, 2 p.m.—(General Monthly Meeting.)
Tuesday.—Linnean, 8 p.m.
 — Horticultural, 3 p.m.
 — Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Discussion upon Mr. Yates' paper on the Advantages of Uniformity in European Weights, Measures, and Coins.)
 — Pathological, 8 p.m.
 — Russell Institution, 8 p.m.—(Swiney Lecture on Geology.)
 — Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Tyndall on Heat.)
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Mr. R. B. Purbrick, An Investigation into the relative merits of Purbrick and Yeates's Patent Spring Pens, and those in ordinary use.)
 — Geological, 8 p.m.—(1. On the Geology of the Gold District of Victoria, Australia, by A. Selwyn, Esq., communicated by Prof. Ramsay, F.G.S.; 2. On the Gems and Gold-crystals of Victoria, by G. M. Stephen, Esq., F.G.S.; 3. On the Gold and Cinnabar Regions of California, by Mr. J. S. Wilson, communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, F.G.S.; 4. On the Gold of Coromandel, New Zealand, by Mr. C. Heagles, communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, F.G.S.)
 — Graphic, 8 p.m.
 — Pharmaceutical, 8½ p.m.
 — Literary Fund, 2 p.m.—(Anniversary.)
 — Medical, 5 p.m.—(Anniversary Oration.)
 — R. S. Literature, 8½ p.m.
 — Archaeological Association, 8½ p.m.—(Rev. Beale Poste on the Sea Margins of Kent, and the formation of Levels and the later alluvial tracts, in connexion with Historical and Archaeological research.)
Thursday.—Royal, 8½ p.m.
 — Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
 — Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Wharton Jones on Animal Physiology.)
Friday.—Astronomical, 8½ p.m.
 — Philological, 8 p.m.
 — Royal Institution, 8½ p.m.—(Charles Brooke, Esq., on the Construction and Uses of the Modern Compound Microscope.)
Saturday.—Medical, 8 p.m.
 — Botanic, 4 p.m.
 — Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor W. A. Miller on the Chemistry of the Non-Metallic Elements.)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Dresden, 25th February.

I THINK I mentioned to you in a late letter that we were looking forward to the great pleasure of seeing *King Lear* performed on the Dresden stage. In this we have within the last few days been gratified; and though I quite agree with Charles Lamb that "the *Lear* of Shakspeare cannot be acted," yet I must say that the impersonation by Emil Devrient of the "very foolish fond old man," fourscore and upward, a fine piece of acting. Herr Emil Devrient, who is now no longer young (a fault in him by the-by, if it be one, hardly discoverable either on or off the stage), has latterly determined to give up entirely the younger parts, such as *Hamlet*, *Posa*, *Tasso*, *Egmont*, &c., and devote himself exclusively to the rôles of older men, such as *Nathan the Wise*, *Shylock*, or *Antonio* in *Tasso*. He determined to make his *débüt* in this great transition in the character of *Lear*, a part which he himself told me he had constantly in his thoughts for the last ten years. During this time he had studied the character *au fond*, read all that the voluminous, but at the same time I must say, acute German critics had to say on the subject, made full use of his two seasons in England to investigate our theatrical records, compare the different readings of the play, and examine the conceptions of the parts as carried out by our great actors of the last century and a-half. The manner in which Emil Devrient gave the character of *Lear* testified to the long and careful study he had bestowed upon it; and I must confess that, much as I have always admired his acting, I was not prepared for the power and truth which he displayed in his conception of the character, without doubt the most difficult of all Shakspeare's heroes to render faithfully. I feared over-acting and exaggeration, and I found simple truth—at no time did he ever overstep the limits required by the purest and most refined taste. Even when first the ingratitude of his daughters bursts upon him, his passion was controlled, and gleams of human sorrow and affection pierced through the dark clouds that are gathering round his devoted head. Thus, in the scene where, maddened by *Goneril's* cruelty, he curses her, and turns to his other child, the pathos and clinging love with which he uttered the words,

"No, *Regan*, thou shalt never have my curse,
Thy tender-hefted nature shall not give
Thee o'er to harshness," &c.

can never be forgotten. The struggle between anger and the fear of madness was finely depicted, the shrinking terror of harbouring thoughts that must drive out reason,—

"O let me not be mad, not mad, sweet heavens—
Keep me in temper, I would not be mad."

And again,—

"Your old kind father whose frank heart gave all,—
O! that way madness lies."

These words were uttered with a voice subdued and trembling, as if already the heart was broken, and sorrow's work of devastation begun; but the climax was the scene in the tent with *Cordelia*, his awakening to consciousness, the exquisite feeling with which he gave utterance to his returning sense,—

"Do not laugh at me,
For as I am a man I think this lady
To be my child *Cordelia*."

The conception of the fool's part in *Lear* varies here essentially from that formed by our English actors. Here the part is taken by an actor advanced in life, who is supposed to be equal, or nearly equal, to his master in age, who leaves out one half of the part, and utters the remaining speeches in a melancholy sentimental style, a sad contrast to those who remember the mixture of wit, nature, and pathos, which Miss P. Horton so gracefully blended in her representation of the character.

All who have interested themselves in the musical history of the last hundred years must be familiar with the name of Schikaneder, that friend of Mozart, who, though possessed of no great or brilliant poetic talent, yet worked heart and soul in furthering the progress of German dramatic art whilst it was yet in its infancy, aided his friend

with his counsel and his money, and spurred him on to action when his spirits failed him. He wrote the text for Mozart to the *Flauto Magico*, and in the first performance of the opera the part of the first boy was taken by Schikaneder's daughter. After the act was over, Mozart went up to her, and clapping her on the shoulder, cried out, "Brav, Nannerl, brav, aus Dir kann was werden" ("Bravo, bravo Nancy, we shall make something out of you.") Fulfilling the prophecy of the great 'maestro,' she became a good singer, and in course of time married a talented artist named Eikhoff. But fortune does not always run on smoothly. A few days ago Herr — was sitting in his room in Ratisbon, when he was roused by a knock at his door; upon opening it he found an old woman, bent down with age and sickness, imploring alms, and upon inquiry he found that she was this same daughter of Schikaneder, the companion and favourite of the great Mozart, but whom misfortune after misfortune had reduced to the lowest grade of poverty and distress, till at last, at seventy-four years of age, she was obliged to wander forth into the streets, and sue for charity for herself and for her husband, who, seventy-seven years old, lay at home bedridden and stricken by an incurable disease. These are the sad dark sides to the artist's life, shadows which we, alas! only see too often. Amongst the vast projects in connexion with art in Germany for the coming summer, I may mention that of the proposed great exhibition of pictures at Munich. This exhibition is got up entirely by the painters and sculptors of Munich, and although in connexion with the Great Industrial Exhibition, will be held in a separate building. It is to consist of pictures exclusively by living German artists, or artists residing in Germany, and if carried out in the spirit in which it is projected, it cannot fail to be not only highly interesting to the amateur, but most instructive to the student of modern art. Dr. Dingelstedt, the well-known German poet and director of the Royal Theatre at Munich, has suggested another idea connected with the dramatic art, no less interesting, but hardly so feasible of execution. His plan is, to have in the months of July or August a series of grand representations of several of the most classical pieces of Goethe, Schiller, Calderon, Shakspeare, &c., to be performed by the most celebrated actors of Germany, and to effect this he has sent circulars to all the best artists. The wish of the 'Intendant' is to make the price of admission as low as possible, so that the new theatre, one of the largest in Germany, should be every evening filled, and thus at a low rate give the opportunity to many, for perhaps the first and last time, of familiarising themselves with great works and great artists. I do not myself think the plan is a feasible one; the envies and jealousies of the stage, and, I am sorry to acknowledge, the mercenary spirit of many artists, who think more of themselves than their art, will be an insurmountable obstacle to Dingelstedt's plan.

VARIETIES.

Growth of Fish.—Whilst Pisciculture is gaining ground in every country in modern Europe, it may be amusing to our readers to publish certain facts within our own knowledge relative to the increase in size of fish in particular waters in Belgium. The growth of the salmon, as proved by the marked fish of the Duke of Sutherland, in the Scotch fisheries, is notorious, and has already been fully noticed in previous numbers of this journal. In four months' time, it has been proved that the young fry, between the period of their leaving their native rivers for the sea and their return, have increased in weight, varying from 3 to 7 pounds. Without the positive proof of identity by marking, this would have been as it previously had been, chimerical. We have now to notice the increase, in the waters at Boitsfort, near Brussels, of the jack, the only species of fresh-water fish which has as yet been put to the test in regard to its growth. In these waters, in October 1852, about 2000 were left as stock, none exceeding 2lbs. in weight, the fish thus put in being indigenous to the water; these fish have been caught the

present month with rod and line as high as 6lbs. each, showing an excess in weight of 4lbs. in 16 months—a rate only known in the first rivers in England. But the most extraordinary increase has been in the fish not indigenous. In the month of March of last year a fresh supply of jack was put in as stock from a neighbouring water, the largest being 3lbs. in weight; these fish were marked by cutting off a portion of their tail fin. Two of the fish thus marked were caught last week, one weighing 8½lbs., another 7½lbs., thus showing a positive increase as to one of 5½lbs., in a period of 11 months, taking it even upon the assumption that the fish so caught were those weighing the excess of weight of 3lbs. when put in, and of which weight there were but few. We have been informed that in these waters the other description of fish, such as carp, tench, perch, and eels, increase, as to the two former, after the rate of 2lbs. per annum; but this will form the subject of future experiment by marking, which has not been hitherto done. It is generally known that change of water from that in which they have been bred is most productive of profit to fresh-water fish; but it would be incredible, without the proof, that a fish of 3lbs. could add 5½lbs. to its weight within the period of a year. For the information of amateurs in England in the *gentle art*, the lake in which these jack are is of about 10 acres, supplied with three continuous streams of water running through it. No fish breed in it but roach, jack, perch, and eels, the coldness of the contributory water stopping all breeding of carp and tench; the supply of the latter being through store fish of from three ounces to half a pound, which, from observations made, increase in the ratio before mentioned.—*Brussels Herald*.

Crystal Palace Balance Sheet.—It appears from there port, that of the 750,000l. share capital, 700,150l. have been received, and that the amount expended up to the present time is 679,720l. Of this sum, the following details, as to the manner in which it has been paid away, will be read with interest:—

	£
"Land.—Total amount paid £105,728	
Deduct amount received	
for resales	55,488
Purchase and removal of the materials of the original building	95,000
Construction of the main building of the Crystal Palace	135,050
Tunnel, heating apparatus, &c.	24,536
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Hydraulic works, fountains, cascades, lakes, basins, Artesian well, reservoirs, &c.	93,670
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New roads and approaches, fencing &c.	4,350
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General expenses, including engineering staff, superintendence, officers' salaries, law and Parliamentary expenses, surveying, rent and taxes, and miscellaneous disbursements	35,384
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ERRATUM.

Page 180, col. 1, fifth line from the bottom, for *Europe still* is torpid, read *France still* is torpid.

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 By Special Act of Parliament, Income Tax is recoverable from the Commissioners of Income Tax, on Premiums paid to this Company for Insurances effected by any Person on his own Life or on the Life of his Wife, provided such amount does not exceed one-sixth part of his whole amount of profits and gains. A copy of the clause of the Act may be obtained on application at the Office, and every other information afforded by
EDWARD LENNON ROYD, Resident Director.

14th September, 1853.
FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent Street,
 Jewellers, Dressing-Case Makers, &c., desire the inspection of the nobility, gentry, and public to their new and elegant Stock, comprising every novelty for use and ornament. Gold watches, silver watches, 22 1/2. Solid gold chains, of their own manufacture, held at per cent. of fashion only charged. The gold in chains and in all articles of Jewellery guaranteed, and re-purified, rings, &c., designed expressly for them by native and foreign artists. Every description of plate or jewellery purchased for cash or taken in exchange.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION was held at Edinburgh on WEDNESDAY, February 15:

JOHN AULD, Esq., Writer to her Majesty's Signet, the Senior Director, in the Chair.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

The Directors have the satisfaction of submitting a very favourable report of the business for the year ending 31st December, 1853.

The new proposals accepted have been 716 in number, assuring £309,393 1s., with yearly premiums amounting to £4,038 12s. 5d. A further sum of 10,729 2s. 8d. has also been secured by new Assurances by single payment; and several Annuities, immediate, deferred, and contingent, have been contracted for. The total Premiums received in the year have been £74,357 10s. 5d.

The claims against the Institution on account of emerged policies have been very moderate, the amount, including additions declared at the recent investigation, being £23,526 5s.

At the close of the year, there had been issued in all 6,602 policies, assuring £2,380,821. The amount remaining assured (exclusive of annuities) was £2,316,672. The Realised Fund, arising entirely from accumulated premiums, was £305,134, being an increase of upwards of £50,000 within the year.

The report of the investigation of the affairs of the Society which was submitted to last general meeting, and the working of its distinctive principle, as shown in the first division of profits, it is gratifying to be able to state, have been received with entire satisfaction by the general body of the contributors.

The Directors continue to be guided in the administration by the rules on which they have hitherto acted—of avoiding, on the one hand, objectionable methods of increasing the business, such as paying the law agents of applicants for assurance, and others who have no legitimate claim on the Society—and, on the other, of making the provisions as available and secure to the representatives of the members as prudence will admit. They have found good reason to approve of the step in this direction taken by this Institution five years ago, when the conditions of forfeiture were restricted to the case of fraud and willful misstatement. And the resolution of the annual meeting of February, 1853, adopted in concert with other officers, to relieve from restrictions on travel and foreign residence holders of policies who, by a certain term of probation, shall have shown themselves to be unlikely to entail risk on the Society, has been a further boon to the members, by enhancing the security and marketable value of their policies.

By perseverance in the course now indicated, while no principle has been abandoned, and no concession made either to disarm opposition or to win popularity, the amount of substantial business has been constantly on the increase, and that not by sudden and alternate rise and fall, but by that gradual and steady advancement which is the best pledge of permanent prosperity. And in this course the Directors will persevere.

The progress of the London Branch continues to be in all respects satisfactory, and the Directors are able to report that they have had the good fortune to secure premises in one of the most central situations in the City, in which they will have greatly superior accommodation, without, as they have reason to believe, increased expense.

A detailed Statement of the Accumulated Fund, and of the Income and Expenditure during the year, was annexed, in terms of Art. 28 of the Laws.

BIENNIAL PROGRESS OF THE BUSINESS DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

In Years	Number of New Policies.	Amount of New Assurances.	Accumulated Fund at end of Period.
1844-45 ...	658	£281,082	£69,000
1846-47 ...	888	404,734	95,705
1848-49 ...	907	410,933	134,406
1850-51 ...	1269	535,137	207,803
1852-53 ...	1373	557,118	305,134

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE.

THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION combines the advantage of Participation in the whole Profits with moderate Premiums.

The premiums are as low as those of the non-participating scale of the proprietary companies. They admit of being so not only with safety, but with ample reversion of profits to the policy-holders—being free from the burden of payment of dividend to shareholders.

At the first division of surplus, in the present year, bonus additions were made to policies which had come within the participating class, varying from 20 to 54 per cent. on their amount.

In all points of practice—as in provision for the indefatigability of policies, facility of license for travelling or residence abroad, and of obtaining advances on the value of the policies—the regulations of the Society, as well as the administration, are as liberal as is consistent with right principle.

Policies are now issued free of stamp duty. Copies of the last annual report, containing full explanations of the principles, may be had on application.

Head Office: 14, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.
 JAMES WATSON, Manager.
 London Branch: 12, Moorgate Street.
 GEORGE GRANT, Resident Secretary.

After 25th March the London Branch will be removed to the Society's New Premises, 68, Gracechurch Street, City.

PREMIUMS REDUCED THIRTY PER CENT. ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS. GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

14, Waterloo Place, London, and 30, Brown Street, Manchester.

Directors.
THE CHISHOLM, Chairman.
RICHARD HARTLEY KENNEDY, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.
 Colonel Michael E. Bagnold. William Morley, Esq.
 Francis Brodigan, Esq. Robt. Francis Power, Esq., M.D.
 Alexander Robert Irvine, Esq. Archibald Spens, Esq.
 John Inglis Jordan, Esq. Frederick Valiant, Esq.
 James John Kinloch, Esq. Rev. F. W. J. Vickery.
 Henry Lawson, Esq.

The Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the current Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 26th of May, 1853, when a report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared, that whilst the Assurances effected in 1851 were 45 per cent. beyond those of 1850, nearly 70 per cent. beyond those of 1849, and 130 per cent. beyond those of 1848, the Assurances effected in 1852 considerably exceeded those of 1851, 325 new Policies having been issued in that year, covering Assurances to the extent of £186,600, the yearly premiums on which amounted to £2416 15s. It also appeared that the transactions of the first five months of the present year were greater than those of the corresponding months of 1852, or of any preceding year; whilst, during the whole period referred to, the claims arising from deaths were much below their estimated amount. A resolution was thereupon passed, continuing a reduction of 30 per cent. on the premiums payable on all Policies on the participating scale, on which five or more annual premiums had been previously paid. Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per Cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
25	1000	23 0 0	6 18 0	16 2 0
35	1500	43 15 0	13 2 6	30 12 6
45	2000	50 11 8	15 3 4	35 8 2

14, Waterloo Place, London. A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY, 4, New Bank Buildings, Lothbury.

President—His Grace the DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
Sir PETER LAURIE, Alderman, Chairman.
JOHN I. GLENNE, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
Solicitor—ALEX. DOHIE, Esq.

The benefits of Life Assurance are afforded by this Company to their utmost extent, combined with perfect security in a fully subscribed Capital of One Million, besides an accumulating Premium fund exceeding £534,000, and a Reserve from Life Premiums alone of more than £100,000, which is annually increasing. Nineteen, or Ninety per Cent. of the profits, are septennially divided among the Insurers on the participation scale of Premiums. On Insurances for the whole life, half the premium may remain on credit for the first five years.

Tables of Increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.

Premium to Insure £100 at death.

Age	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	0 19 2	0 10 3	1 1 5	1 2 5	1 18 2	
30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 5
40	1 11 0	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	2 0 6	3 8 3

Specimen of the Bonuses added to Policies to 1851, to which will be added a prospective Bonus of one per cent. per annum on the sum insured and previously declared Bonuses, in the event of death before December, 1858, and in which prospective Bonus all new Insurers on the Profit scale will participate.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses.	Amount.
£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1825	5000	1926 2 4	6926 2 4
1825	2000	770 9 9	2770 9 9
1828	3000	1058 2 4	4058 2 4

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and full particulars, may be obtained of the Secretary, 4, New Bank Buildings, London, or from any of the Agents of the Company.

ROBERT STRACHAN, Secretary.
 * Applications for Agencies may be addressed to the Secretary, 4, New Bank Buildings.

EVERYTHING FOR THE TOILET AT

MECHI'S MANUFACTORY, 4, Leadenhall Street.—Superior Hair, Nail, Tooth, Shaving, and Flesh Brushes; Clothes and Hat Brushes; Combs, Washing and Shaving Soap, Various Nail and Corn Instruments; Razors, Razor Strops and Paste, and Shaving Powder; Ladies' and Gentlemen's Dressing Cases, with or without fittings, in Russia Leather, Mahogany, Rosewood, and Japan; Combs, Companions and Pocket-books elegantly fitted; also Knitting Boxes, Envelope Cases, Card Cases, Note and Cake Baskets, beautiful Inkstands, and an infinity of recherche articles not to be equalled.

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of DROPSY.—The singular efficacy of Holloway's Pills in the numerous cases effected by their use, in some of the most obstinate cases of dropsy, is most extraordinary. These astonishing Pills act with such peculiar effect upon the system, that the fluids arising from this direful disease are imperceptibly carried off, and entirely prevented from any further accumulation. Various distressing symptoms which accompany this complaint being thus dispersed, the sufferer regains buoyancy of spirits, and a completely renovated constitution. Females at particular periods of life should have recourse to these admirable Pills, as they are the finest medicine ever known.—Sold by all druggists; and at Professor Holloway's Establishment, 244, Strand, London.

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